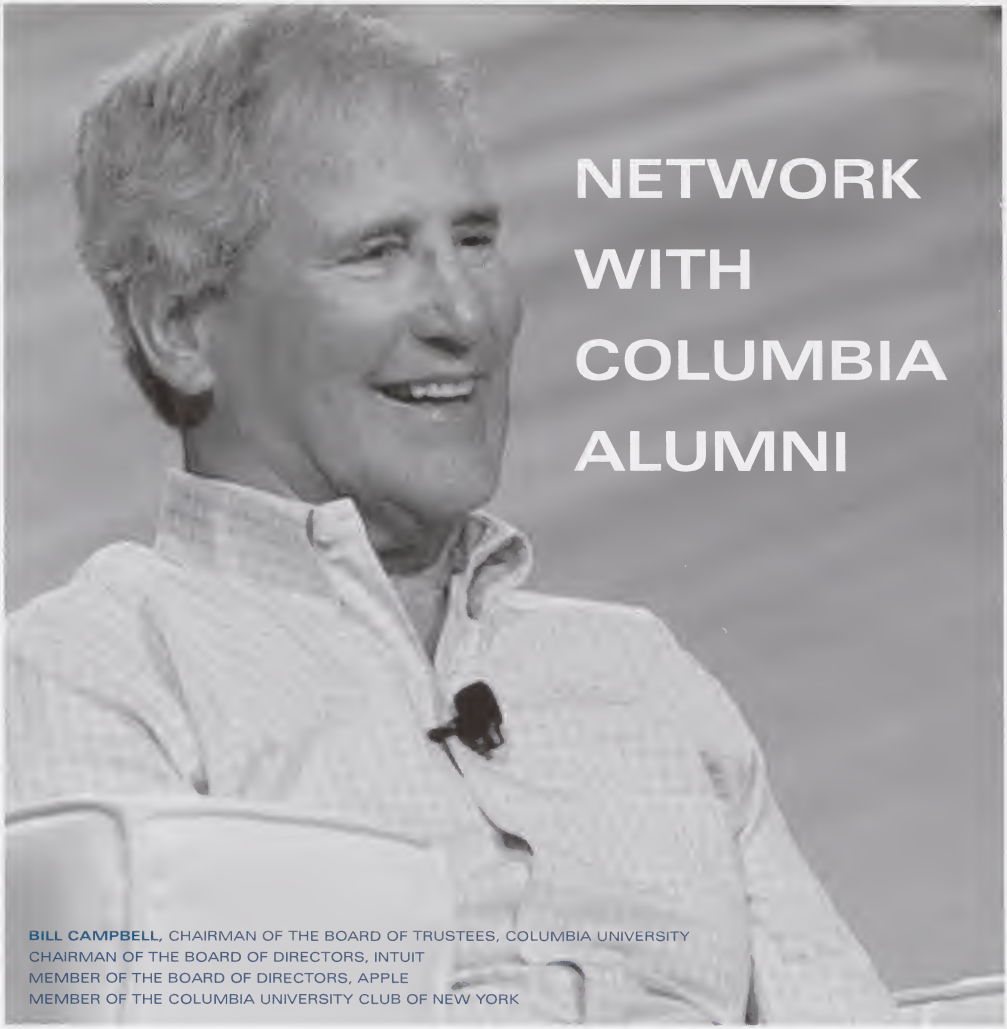
Columbia College TODAY

Fall 2013



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Sheena Wright '90, '94L Breaks Ground as First Woman CEO of United Way of New York City



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PHOTO: NATALIE KEYSSAR BACK COVER: PHOTO: ARNOLD BROWNE '78

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Joel I. Klein '67
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Boris Kachka '97, '98J

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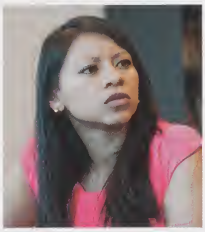
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Thank you to our Fiscal Year 2013 donors.

View a photo album from Convocation.

Watch a concert by the ensemble L'Arpeggiata featuring music by Claudio Monteverdi and his contemporaries.

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Celebrating the Achievements Of Current and Former Students

Last year, I traveled around the world to meet alumni, parents, students and friends of Columbia College and to introduce myself formally as dean. I attended College alumni receptions in London, Los Angeles and San Francisco; met newly admitted early decision students in Boston; visited current students studying at Reid Hall in Paris; and attended "Columbia 101" summer advising events in Beijing, Hong Kong and Seoul. And during my travels, I became more and more impressed by the passion, intelligence and achievements of our current and former students — all 51,803 of you.



PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

I met two alumni in Beijing who were so inspired by their study abroad experience in Asia that they returned to China to start a college advising company. I spoke to one in Paris who started out as a waiter and now owns a film company. And I visited another in San Francisco who began his career as an assistant football coach and has been the CEO of several major software companies.

That's what this issue of *Columbia College Today* is about: the amazing accomplishments of our outstanding former students. This issue includes three features about College alumni: Wm. Theodore "Ted" de Bary '41, '53 GSAS, an East Asian studies pioneer, longtime professor and all-around distinguished Columbian; Sheena Wright '90, '94L, the first female CEO of United Way of New York City; and Scott Aiges '86, director of programs, communications and marketing for The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation.

This issue also features an article about how we are preparing our current students to become the alumni that a future issue of *CCT* may highlight — through one of our ongoing internship programs, Columbia Experience Overseas. Sixty-four students worked abroad in eight cities this past summer, including 11 in CEO's new destinations of Mumbai and Bangalore, India. With support from Citi and the State Department's Passport to India program, students were provided internships at Apne Aap Women's Collective, AZB & Partners, Infosys Limited, Kotak Mahindra Bank, the Marg Foundation, Mumbai Mobile Creches and Spencer Stuart. Several of these students had the opportunity to attend a U.S. State Department event with Secretary of State John Kerry in June and one of these students, Doreen Mohammed '15, a human rights major and pre-med student, was featured on a segment about the Passport to India effort on BBC Hindi in early August (bbc.co.uk/hindi/multimedia/2013/08/130802_passport_sr_ak.shtml).

My goal for the College this year, starting with this issue of *CCT*, is for us to celebrate the outstanding achievements of all our students, current and former. We are building a new feature on the College website that will be populated with stories, photos and videos by students that showcase the creativity, talents and accomplishments of our student body, and we are enhancing the alumni section of our website to better feature and connect College alumni. (Stay tuned for details on both.) We are also busy updating our Columbia College and Columbia College Alumni Facebook pages and Twitter feeds with photos, news items and posts related to members of our unique and distinctive community, so please "Like" and follow us if you have not done so already (see box at left), and continue to share news about your own successes with us via email at ccalumni@columbia.edu.

You may have heard me say that Columbia College is the greatest college in the greatest university in the greatest city in the world. I want us all to celebrate what makes us the best — the best students, current and former, in the world.

Roar, Lion(s), Roar!



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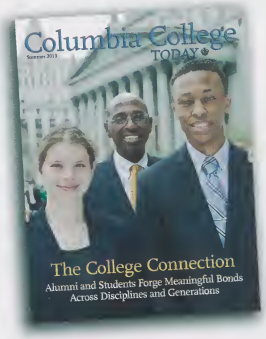
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Letters to the Editor



The Pony Ballet

What a pleasant surprise to turn to page 57 [Summer 2013] and come face to face with that bunch of bums from the 1940 *Varsity Show*! We look better than I remember — I am second from the left.

The Pony Ballet ruled in those days … nobody bigger than we were. And when we threw them a bump, the whole audience would cave in.

Thank you for the reminder, and for your great magazine!

C. Ogden Beresford '43
ALLENDALE, N.J.

Remembering Peter Darrow '72

I recently had a flashback to Columbia, circa 1970, when a young alumna recently recalled how Peter Darrow '72 had addressed the Alpha Delta Phi house while she was in charge.

Darrow, who died last spring after a distinguished law career, "came to us very much as the steadying hand," recalled Caylei Vogelzang '03. The former AD president told the undergraduates they owed a legacy to future generations at Columbia.

That's the kind of Darrow pep talk that once drew jeers from those of us college buddies who were too cool to wash the windows or sweep the front stoop.

But Darrow defeated our cynicism with his relentless generosity. He kept up with the retired cook at our fraternity until the old man died. He campaigned for the admission of women to AD in the 1990s. He helped transform the faded brownstone into "the jewel of 114th Street."

Seven years ago, Darrow reunited his college crew at rowing's answer to the Boston Marathon. Younger rowing alumni have followed, including, by happenstance, Vogelzang. "My heart leapt" at the chance to race again at the Head of the Charles Regatta, she said.

Thanks in part to Darrow's inspiration, the Columbia women's varsity has a new boat to race in Boston this year — another fruit of Darrow's knack for inducing others to give back to the sport and the school they love. As many as four alumni boats will be used by Columbia crews.

The moment will be joyful but bittersweet, laden with the memory of our friend.

John E. Mulligan III '72
MCLEAN, VA.

Help Out the Band

The Columbia University Band Alumni Association has launched a drive to help the CU Marching Band beef up its store of instruments for student musicians.

If you're ready to admit that you won't be playing the old horn any more, or if you have a spare, CUBAA would love to have it for the band. We're also hoping to fund repairs for some of the band's limping instrument inventory and buy some needed instruments as well as band supplies such as drumsticks, reeds, mouthpieces and music folders. CUBAA recently received its 501(c)(3) charitable organization status and can provide a tax letter for all donations.

For more information or to donate, go to columbiabandalumni.org.

Samantha Rowan '96 Barnard
NEW YORK CITY

WWII & NYC

With interest, I read "Columbia Forum: WWII & NYC" [Summer 2013] by Professor Kenneth T. Jackson. It mentions "Todd Shipyards in Brooklyn's Erie Basin had 19,617 employees in 1943 … "

My grandfather, Charles Gilbride, worked at Todd's through the Depression; most of his sons also worked at Todd's. In the 1970s, the chairman of the board of

***CCT* welcomes letters from readers about articles in the magazine but cannot print or personally respond to all letters received. Letters express the views of the writers and not *CCT*, the College or the University. Please keep letters to 250 words or fewer. All letters are subject to editing for space and clarity. Please direct letters for publication "TO THE EDITOR" via mail or online: college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus.**

Recalling a Member of the CCT *Family*

When I was younger, the phrase "untimely death" always struck me as off-kilter. Are not all deaths untimely, I thought? Wouldn't everyone want to wake up to another remarkable sunrise, listen to a favorite piece of music one more time or celebrate another family milestone?

As I grew older, I realized that as sad as it seems and as painful as the loss might be in the moment, some deaths are timely. My mother lived to be 99, but by the end she had outlived all her friends, was in constant pain and could no longer get out of bed and to her wheelchair without assistance. She couldn't even read the pages of her son's magazine, and had reached the point where every night she prayed for God to take her. When I got the call that she had died, I was saddened, of course, but somehow relieved that she was at peace.

In August I read of a colleague/mentor who at 90 had to be moved to a nursing home by his loving wife, having been robbed by Alzheimer's of any memory of the myriad books he edited/published or the countless lives he touched. I can only wonder about the so-called quality of his life at this stage.



Jean-Claude "JC" Suarès, 1942–2013
PHOTO: NINA DURAN

The passing of Jean-Claude Suarès on July 30, after a brief illness at 71, was a most untimely death. JC, as everyone called him, was the design consultant for this magazine for nearly two decades. More than that, he was a force of nature, a man who changed the air pressure in a room upon entering. "What have you got?" he would ask when I'd call to discuss the cover of an upcoming issue, but whether I had something good for him to work with or not, he invariably came up with a strong cover and continually "tweaked" it until it was just what he envisioned.

Suarès was a designer and illustrator who seemed to know everyone in the publishing world, and worked everywhere. He was the first art director of *The New York Times*' Op-Ed page, bringing illustrations to the editorial pages of The Gray Lady, and his work "helped guide the paper into a new visual era and influenced other newspapers and magazines," according to his *Times* obituary. He was the design director for *New York Magazine*, founder and creative director of *7 Days* and *POZ* magazines, and oversaw redesigns for *Variety*, *Publisher's Weekly*, *Broadcasting & Cable* and *Military History*. His drawings appeared on the covers of *The New Yorker* and *The Atlantic Monthly*, and he designed countless illustrated books, including many about cats and dogs. He worked with Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis at Doubleday, designing Michael Jackson's autobiography, *Moonwalk*, and later writing (with J. Spencer Beck) *Uncommon Grace: Reminiscences and Photographs of Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis*.

Suarès was introduced to this magazine, according to former editor Jamie Katz '72, '80 Business, after photographer Arnold Browne '78 convinced Katz that it was time to bring in a pro to give *CCT* a better look. Another photographer, Leslie Jean-Bart '76, '77J, recommended Suarès, and his first cover for *CCT* appeared in Winter 1992–93 and marked the 10th anniversary of coeducation at the College. Suarès became *CCT*'s design consultant with the Winter 1994–95 issue and, working with our art director, Gates Sisters Studio, had been responsible for the look and design of the magazine ever since.

Suarès' sudden death came as a shock; at the time, he already was working on several of the stories that appear in this issue. The *CCT* family extends its condolences to Nina Duran, his wife of 33 years, and to all who were affected by his passing. We hope he is riding one of his beloved polo ponies right now in a better place, and thinking about his next design project.

Alex Sachare

Todd's, John T. Gilbride '39 Penn, handed me a history of Todd Shipyards. Like the Gilbride family, Todd Shipyards had its roots in Brooklyn. While Todd's also had yards in Charleston, Mobile, New Orleans, Houston, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Tacoma and Portland, the main yards in Brooklyn traced its history to John Ericcson's creation of the *Monitor* at the Delameter iron works.

The Brooklyn yards are now history. I still live in Brooklyn but will never forget how when I returned from Columbia, people in Brooklyn knew my name because they had been employed at Todd Shipyards during WWII. It's good to recall the tremendous work ethic of that generation, with hope that leaders in Washington realize the contributions work and jobs have on society.

John T. Gilbride wrote in *Todd Shipyards In Peace and War*: "We subscribe to the American dream of a contented and prosperous family of nations."

Michael Gilbride '76
Brooklyn, N.Y.

I read Kenneth T. Jackson's book excerpt, "Columbia Forum: WWII & NYC" [Summer 2013], with interest.

Dr. John Dunning (pictured, page 45), associate dean of physics at Columbia, recruited my father, Khatchik O. Donelian '36E, '37E, to join the scientific staff in 1941 in what became known as the Manhattan Project.

My father worked on an early version of Dunning's cyclotron and, later, as the chief project engineer on the development of the gaseous diffusion process that was

(Continued on page 103)

AROUND THE QUADS

2013 Alexander Hamilton Medal To Be Presented to Klein



Joel I. Klein '67 is CEO of the Education Division (now called Amplify) and EVP at News Corp.
PHOTO: MICHAEL BRANDS

Joel I. Klein '67 will be presented the 2013 Alexander Hamilton Medal on Thursday, November 14, at the Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner, an annual black-tie event in Low Rotunda. The medal, the highest honor paid to a member of the Columbia College community, is awarded by the Columbia College Alumni Association to an alumnus/a or faculty member for distinguished service to the College and accomplishment in any field of endeavor.

Klein, CEO of the Education Division (now called Amplify) and EVP at News Corp., as well as a member of News Corp.'s Board of Directors, received a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement in 2002.

Klein became Amplify's CEO and News Corp.'s EVP in January 2011. Prior to that, he was chancellor of the New York City Department of Education, where he oversaw a system of more than 1,600 schools with 1.1 million students, 136,000 employees and a $22 billion budget. In 2002, as chancellor, Klein launched Children First, a comprehensive reform strategy that has brought coherence and capacity to the system and resulted in significant increases in student performance.

A former chairman and CEO of the U.S. arm of Bertelsmann, a global media company, Klein was Assistant U.S. Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice from October 1996–September 2000 and was Deputy White House Counsel to President Clinton from 1993–95. He entered the Clinton administration after 20 years of public and private legal work in Washington, D.C. (See feature, Fall 2012 *CCT*.)

Klein graduated magna cum laude from the College and earned a J.D. from Harvard Law in 1971, also magna cum laude. He has received honorary degrees from Amherst, Columbia, Dartmouth, Duke, Fordham Law, Georgetown Law Center, Macaulay Honors College at CUNY, Manhattanville, New York Law, Pace and St. John's School of Education. He was selected by *Time Magazine* as one of "Ten People Who Mattered" in 1999, by *U.S. News & World Report* as "One of America's 20 Best Leaders" in 2006, and was given the prestigious NYU Lewis Rudin Award in 2009 and the Manhattan Institute's Alexander Hamilton Award in 2011.

Klein has been and remains active in Columbia University affairs. While chancellor of NYC's public schools, working with President Lee C. Bollinger, he opened a new secondary school in Harlem that Columbia is supporting. He also served on the University's Manhattanville Ad-Hoc Planning Committee and is currently helping to develop the Mortimer B. Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute.

He is married to Nicole Seligman, EVP/GC of Sony Corp. and president of Sony Corp. of America, and has a daughter, Julia, who is pursuing her doctorate in philosophy.

For more information on the dinner, contact Robin V. Del Giorno, associate director, College events and programs: robinv@columbia.edu or 212-851-7399.

Columbia College Fund Exceeds FY13 Goal, Raises $17.2 Million

The Columbia College Fund exceeded its $16.8 million goal for Fiscal Year 2013 and set a record for giving to the College, raising more than $17.2 million. A total of 11,908 alumni, parents, students and friends of the College contributed to the fund, which raises money for financial aid, the Core Curriculum, student services and summer internship stipends. The FY13 total includes donations received from July 1, 2012–June 30, 2013.

The College community participated enthusiastically in Columbia's first Giving Day on October 24, with more than 900 donors raising $1.28 million, the most of any school at Columbia. This helped the College win the Giving Day Trustee Challenge, earning an additional $98,000 in matching funds.

The reunion Class of 1988 gave the largest reunion gift ever: $2.7 million in unrestricted support and $19.88 million in total gifts to Columbia. The reunion Class of 1963 presented a $1.98 million Class Gift to the fund — the largest reunion Class Gift ever given by a 50th anniversary class. The reunion Class of 1993 set a reunion record as well, for most funds raised by any 20th reunion class.

The Class of 2013 Senior Fund raised more than $25,700, the most of any senior class in Columbia College history. More than 750 students donated to the Senior Fund and 293 signed up for the Dean's 3-2-1 Challenge, pledging to give for three years, to ask two friends to do the same and to have their gifts matched 1:1 by an alumnus/a.

To make a gift to the Columbia College Fund in FY14, give by credit card at college.columbia.edu/giveonline or by calling the Alumni Office at 212-851-7488; or mail a check, payable to Columbia College Fund, to Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025.



PHOTO: SYDNEY SCHWARTZ GROSS '05J

Convocation 2013

Columbia College welcomed 1,098 new students and their families to the Columbia community at Convocation on August 26. The ceremony featured remarks by President Lee C. Bollinger and Dean James J. Valentini, among others. The ceremony began with a parade of students carrying the nearly 200 flags of the home states and countries of the entire College and Engineering undergraduate student body, including the 48 states and 51 countries represented in the Class of 2017. It was followed by the Alumni Procession at Convocation, in which alumni marched with banners representing the decades of their graduation.



Five Minutes with ... Giuseppe Gerbino

Giuseppe Gerbino is an associate professor of music, specializing in Renaissance music, and also chairs the Department of Music. Born and raised near Brescia, Italy, Gerbino earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Pavia, and both his master's in music and Ph.D. in musicology at Duke. He has worked at Columbia since 2001 and was honored this year with a Lenfest Distinguished Faculty Award.

How did you become interested in music?
I began to study piano when I was pretty young but my training in high school was in classics, Greek and Latin. Partly because of that, I developed an interest in the legacy of classical antiquity and therefore the Renaissance as a historical period during which classical antiquity provided the foundation of a body of knowledge and philosophy that affected the way European thought developed from that point on. I began to study musicology in college, which allowed me to combine these two passions, music and classical antiquity, in their historical convergence in the Italian Renaissance.

What characterizes music of the Renaissance?
My work focuses on the century and a half from 1500 to 1650. Probably the most important type of music that was in fashion at the time was a rather complex form of polyphony — which is to say, music for multiple independent voices, both secular and sacred. Later, as you reach the end of the Renaissance and the beginning of the 17th century, a renewed interest in the expressive power of the human voice led to the emergence of a new style of solo singing and vocal virtuosity. This is also the time when opera emerged as a form of musical theatre.

What do you enjoy about teaching Music Humanities?
First of all, the fact that you have students from so many different backgrounds. It's very satisfying to discuss music with them in a way that doesn't necessarily require knowledge of music theory and instead explores music as a fundamental aspect of the human experience. The sheer variety of the music we study in Music Humanities, from the Middle Ages to the 21st century, is a great tribute to the human imagination.

The other thing I love is the interdisciplinary spirit underlying the Core Curriculum. As I see it, the four components of the Western Core are not four independent courses: literature, philosophy, art history and music. Rather, they are inextricably intertwined points of entry into the intellectual life of the West through four fundamental manifestations of human behavior: the linguistic, the abstract thinking, the visual and the auditory. It's fascinating to observe the same object from these four points of view — almost as a "quadridimensional" object — and it's the synergy among the four components of the Core that makes teaching any one of them such a stimulating and rewarding experience.

Do you find that students from nonmusical backgrounds are intimidated by Music Humanities?
Sometimes, yes. Music is an ephemeral object; it unfolds in time, and it is never present in front of you in its entirety in any tangible way. It's not so easy to grasp the nature of an object that cannot be observed the way a painting can, or whose temporal directionality cannot be controlled the way we do with a book when we flip back and forth between pages.

One advantage, though, is that the emotional response to music allows you to get into contact or in touch with it in an instinctive and profound single act of perception. At that point you can begin to ask yourself: "Why am I reacting to this piece this way?" The music may sound alien at first but what is important is that it was meaningful to the people who created it, shared it and performed it. And that's when the discussion takes off.

What other undergraduate courses do you teach?
One that I love — which is open to all undergraduates regardless of their musical background — is called "Music and Myth." It is a study of the musical adaptation of classical mythology in Western culture. I usually choose five myths to study in detail, for example, Stravinsky's post-WWI, neoclassical oratorio "Oedipus rex" or Prometheus and Beethoven's third symphony. I also teach the first semester of the music history survey for the major and a course on Bach's vocal music, one of my favorite composers.

What music on your iPod would students be surprised to know you have?
Perhaps the most unusual item on my playlist is a collection of songs from the former Soviet Union, especially by the Red Army Choir and Band. Their performance style and repertory can be hauntingly evocative and terrifying at the same time.

What's your favorite place to be?
I've always had a bit of an attraction for the mountains. But if I were to pick a city I would say New York. I find the synergy between Columbia and the city to be unique. The experience of living in a city like New York changes you deeply — the same way a great piece of music or a great book can change you forever. I fell in love with the city and the institution from day one and, after 12 years, I think it's still the honeymoon.

To watch a concert Gerbino recommends, by the ensemble L'Arpeggiata and featuring music by Claudio Monteverdi (1567–1643) and his contemporaries, go to Web Extras at college.columbia.edu/cct.

Interview: Alexis Tonti '11 Arts
Photo: Eileen Barroso



ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

■ **Peter Zimroth '63** was chosen in August as the court-appointed monitor for the New York Police Department's controversial stop-and-frisk policies, charged with ensuring they are conducted in accordance with Fourth Amendment rights barring illegal searches. Zimroth, a former chief deputy prosecutor with extensive experience in both the public and private sectors, will develop and oversee near-term reforms, including changes to the NYPD's policies and training.

Zimroth was quoted in *The New York Times* as saying his work as the city's top lawyer gave him "tremendous respect for the Police Department, not just the department in the abstract but for the people who serve the city and protect us." But, he added, "at the same time, I have always believed that effective law enforcement is very important — it's crucial — but so is the need for law enforcement officials to act within the law and the Constitution. And I don't think they are in conflict."



Milagros "Milly" Silva '96
PHOTO: BUONO FOR GOVERNOR CAMPAIGN

■ New Jersey Democratic gubernatorial candidate Barbara Buono has named labor leader **Milagros "Milly" Silva '96** as her running mate for lieutenant governor, forming just the third all-female gubernatorial ticket in U.S. history. Silva is the e.v.p. in charge of New Jersey for Service Employees International Union Local 1199, the largest health-care local in the country, with nearly 20,000 members who live or work in the state. In that role she represents mostly nursing home workers who are negotiating contracts, lobbying the Legislature for health-care funding and directing political donations.

The previous all-female gubernatorial tickets were of Illinois Democrats in 1994 and Kentucky Republicans in 1999. Neither was successful.

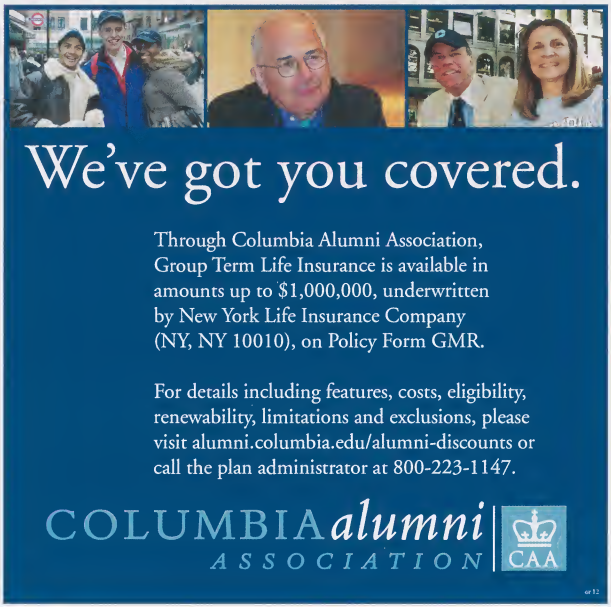
■ **Tom Kitt '96** (music) and **Brian Yorkey '93** (book and lyrics), who wrote the Pulitzer Prize- and Tony Award-winning 2009 musical *Next to Normal*, are scheduled to be back on Broadway in Spring 2014 with *If/Then*, a romantic musical about "how choice and chance collide and how we learn to love the fallout," according to its website, ifthenthemusical.com. The show also will mark the Broadway return of Idina Menzel, who won a Tony Award for *Wicked*.

If/Then focuses on a woman about to turn 40 who moves to New York intent on making a fresh start, and how even small decisions and random occurrences have an impact on her world in ways she never dreamt possible. It is slated to begin preview performances in Washington, D.C., in November.

■ **Andrew J. Ceresney '93** has been named co-head of the enforcement division of the Securities and Exchange Commission, SEC chair Mary Jo White announced. Ceresney previously worked with White as both a corporate defense lawyer at Debevoise & Plimpton and earlier as a federal prosecutor in Manhattan. He will share the SEC enforcement role with George S. Canellos, who had been acting as interim enforcement chief.

■ **Victor Cahn '69** has written a new play, *A Dish for the Gods*, which will be presented Off-Broadway at The Lion Theatre on Theatre Row, 410 W. 42nd St., from Saturday, September 14–Saturday, October 5. Produced by Rachel Reiner Productions, the play, which is about a celebrated writer and the challenges she faced, the painful choices she made and the tumultuous relationship she shared with the man she loved, is directed by Adam Fitzgerald and features Margot White and Kevin Cristaldi.

■ **Carly Hugo '06,** an independent film producer and the co-founder of the film production company Loveless, recently produced Andrew Dosunmu's acclaimed film, *Mother of George*. The film portrays the struggles of a West African immigrant living in Brooklyn and won the Cinema-



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Zahra Bhaiwala '14 Combines Interests In Health and the Middle East

By Nathalie Alonso '08

Like so many who discover new callings as undergraduates, **Zahra Bhaiwala '14** enrolled in the College looking to prepare for medical school but now has a new dream of addressing conflict-related public health issues in the Middle East.

Bhaiwala took a transitional step in that direction this past summer as a paid analyst in Pfizer's Global Outcomes Research department, where she reviewed existing literature on the worldwide incidence and financial burden of bone demineralization and renal problems in HIV patients. Using economic modeling, she projected the cost of such complications. Ahmed Shelbaya '01 PH, director of global outcomes research at Pfizer and a lecturer at the Mailman School of Public Health, was impressed with the approach Bhaiwala brought to her assignment. "Zahra is passionate about global health," he says. "She is concerned about the underserved and vulnerable of the world. She is engaged with what is happening politically, economically and culturally around the world, and she is culturally fluent."

After three years of scientific research as an intern at P&S and Harvard Medical School, Bhaiwala sought more macro level analysis at Pfizer. "I realized my interest in healthcare is not the scientific aspect," she says. "The questions I was asking had to do with structural problems. How does poverty contribute to a healthcare system? What problems do vaccine campaigns run into?"

While with P&S during her first three years in the College, Bhaiwala investigated noninvasive diagnostics techniques for glioblastoma, the most common and aggressive type of malignant brain tumor, and researched the role that T cells and their receptors play in the cancer's development. In 2012, she received a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship from the department of biological sciences to support that research. Bhaiwala, now editor-in-chief of the *Columbia Undergraduate Science Journal*, also spent summers 2010 and 2011 as a paid intern at Harvard, where she searched for correlations between genetic mutations and birth defects in mice.

The Andover, Mass., native, who majors in biological sciences and Middle Eastern, South Asian and African studies, chose the College largely due to her regard for those departments. "My interests in politics, international policy and culture, combined with my interest in health care, have grown," says Bhaiwala, citing the recent prevalence of birth defects in Iraq, which some believe is the result of war pollutants, as an example of an issue she hopes to delve into. "I've realized that the health of a population is not just heart rate or blood pressure; you have to look at the whole person, the whole society."

Bhaiwala, the daughter of a Pakistani mother and an Indian father, has been fascinated by the Middle East since high school, when she, her parents and younger brother embarked on a leisure tour of Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Israel. During her freshman year in the College, while on winter break, she accompanied her family on a pilgrimage to the Imam Ali Mosque and the Shrine of Imam Hussein ibn Ali in Iraq. "I managed to sneak out when we weren't doing anything and talk to people, which was fun," recalls Bhaiwala, who attended an Islamic grade school where she achieved proficiency in Arabic. "I felt really at home in a lot of those countries. That sparked an interest for me and I started following politics and international affairs in that region."

Bhaiwala, who grew up speaking Urdu and Hindi and is fluent in Spanish, also spent her freshman and sophomore spring breaks taking patient information and performing triage at free medical clinics in La Antigua, Guatemala and Cusco, Peru, respectively. Both volunteer trips were organized by the Columbia University American Medical Students Association–Premedical Chapter.



Zahra Bhaiwala '14 is interested in health challenges in the Middle East.
PHOTO: MUSTAFA HAMEED '11, '13J

As co-chair of the chapter's global health committee, a position she has held since her junior year, Bhaiwala helped create a global health curriculum that chapter members teach to middle school students at the Double Discovery Center of Columbia College once a week during the school year. She also is active with the Columbia University Muslim Students Association and, since June 2012, has tutored recently incarcerated young men for the GED exam through Getting Out and Staying Out, an NYC nonprofit.

Several times a semester, Bhaiwala performs at campus events with CU Sur, a South Asian student a cappella group. During her free time, she enjoys exploring the city's ethnic neighborhoods. "I love that you can step on the subway and every few stops you are in a different demographic," she says.

Nathalie Alonso '08, *from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball's official Spanish language website.*



Carly Hugo '06
PHOTO: KRISTIN GLADNEY

tography Award in the U.S. Dramatic Competition of the 2013 Sundance Film Festival. Hugo also co-produced Academy Award nominee Vera Farmiga's 2011 directorial debut, *Higher Ground*, and is currently in production on HBO Documentary Films' documentary about the late Nora Ephron, *Everything is Copy*.

■ **Robert Reffkin '00, '03 Business** has been named to *Fast Company* magazine's "100 Most Creative People in Business" list for 2013. Reffkin is the founder and CEO of Urban Compass, an online real estate search startup, after previously working at Goldman Sachs, Lazard Frères and McKinsey & Co. He helped found a charter school in the Bronx and launched a not-for-profit, New York Needs You, which finds mentors for students who are the first in their families to go to college.

■ A company founded by two alumni was named winner of the TechCrunch Disrupt NY 2013 competition. **Marc DaCosta '06** and **Hicham Oudghiri '06** founded Enigma in 2012 along with Jeremy Bronfmann and Raphaël Guilleminot. The web service allows users to search data from more than 100,000 publicly available but hard-to-obtain sources. TechCrunch, a news website focused on information technology companies, has hosted TechCrunch Disrupt annually since 2011 in San Francisco and Beijing as well as New York. In this year's New York competition, 30 technology startups competed before a panel of venture capital investors and media.

■ **Eli Lehrer '99**, former development v.p. at Bravo, is now heading Lifetime's nonfiction development in the newly created position of s.v.p. and head of non-scripted development. Lehrer, who assumed the position on July 8, was responsible for developing the Bravo series *Flipping Out*, *The Real Housewives of New York City*, *The Rachel Zoe Project* and *The Real Housewives of D.C.* and was executive producer of *Watch What Happens: Live*, *The Millionaire Matchmaker* and *Tabatha's Salon Takeover*. Prior to joining Bravo, Lehrer managed East Coast development for VH1, was executive assistant to Michael Ovitz at Artists Management Group and was executive assistant to George Stephanopoulos '82 at ABC News. In 2008, Lehrer was named as one of *Multichannel News*' top executives in its 40 Under 40 issue.



Eli Lehrer '99
PHOTO: JORDAN STRAUSS, COURTESY OF LIFETIME

■ **John Martin Cochran '09** won the CBS reality show competition *Survivor: Caramoan*, defeating Dawn Meehan and Sherri Biethman in a unanimous 8–0–0 vote in the season finale on May 12 to become the Sole Survivor. Cochran, who previously competed on *Survivor: South Pacific* and is a self-described superfan of the series, was only the second player in *Survivor's* 26 seasons to play a "perfect game," receiving no votes against him at Tribal Council and winning the jury vote unanimously.

■ **Nicholas Fox Weber '69**, executive director of the Josef & Anni Albers Foundation since 1979, has been named a chevalier in France's Order of Arts and Letters and will receive the honor in a ceremony in Paris on Wednesday, October 16.

In 2005, Fox Weber and the Josef & Anni Albers Foundation established the American Friends of Le Korsa to further the work by Dr. Gilles Degois, a Paris-based physician, to improve the quality of life in Senegal, one of the world's poorest countries. Since 2011, AFLK has expanded the scope of its activities to help construct medical centers and educational facilities that provide health services and learning opportunities to villages deep in the African bush where such facilities and programs were previously nonexistent.

Alex Sachare '71

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Roar, Lion, Roar

Football Unveils New Look

The 2013 Columbia football season brings with it something old and something new. As the revitalized Baker Athletics Complex celebrates its 90th anniversary, the 2013 Lions will be sporting a mix of veterans and new players under second-year coach Pete Mangurian — and unveiling new uniforms as well.

"History tells you that your second season is when you make your biggest jump in a new program," said Mangurian during the Ivy League Media Day teleconference in August. "Your players understand what you're looking for and develop a work ethic. I think we've created competition at every position. … I also think we're bigger, faster and more explosive than a year ago."

Columbia opens its season at Fordham on September 21, followed by the home opener against Monmouth on September 28. The Lions begin their Ivy schedule at Princeton on October 5, with Homecoming as a highlight on October 19 against preseason Ivy favorite Penn.

Seeing as the Lions seek to improve on last year's 3–7 record (2–5 in Ivy competition) and will be doing so in new uniforms, we thought it would be a good time to take a look at Columbia uniforms through the years.



The new look of the Lions: (left to right) Zach Olinger '14, Seyi Adebayo '14 and Hamilton Garner '14



1905



1933



1947

CAMPBELL SPORTS CENTER SCOREBOARD

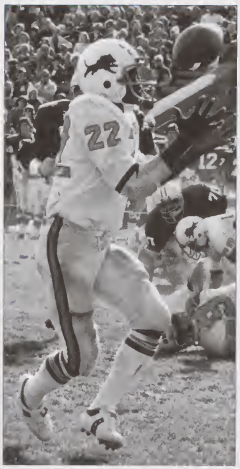
10 Columbia student-athletes in spring sports who earned Academic All-Ivy honors

17 Ivy League individual titles won by Columbians in 2012–13

90 Ivy League individual titles won by Columbians since 2008–09 — the most in any five-year span in Columbia history



1948



1978



1995



2011

Lionswear through the years: Opposite, lower left to right: 1905 team picture; Cliff Montgomery '34; George Kisiday '48 TC. Above, clockwise from upper left: Lou Kusserow '49; Bruce Stephens '78; Brian East '14; Wes Root '01.

PHOTOS: COURTESY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

Homecoming 2013

Saturday, October 19, Columbia vs. Penn

PICNIC, 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Enjoy a barbecue buffet under the Big Tent before cheering the Lions on to victory. Picnic tickets are $20 for adults, $10 for children under 12 if purchased online at college.columbia.edu/alumni/homecoming by Thursday, October 17. Tickets also may be purchased on Saturday at the Big Tent ($22 for adults, $12 for children under 12). Each ticket includes an all-you-can-eat buffet, soft drinks and admission to the Columbia Homecoming Carnival. Beer, wine and cocktails will be available at an additional cost. There will also be limited cash-and-carry items.

CARNIVAL, 11 a.m.–3 p.m.

All members of the Columbia community, young, old and in between, are invited to participate in face painting, balloon-making, magic shows, games and interactive activities.

FOOTBALL, 1:30 p.m.

To purchase tickets to the game, call 888-LIONS-11 or visit gocolumbialions.com/tickets. Premium chairback seats are $25; reserved bench seats are $15. Tickets also may be purchased at the Athletics Ticket Office on the fourth floor (campus level) of the Dodge Fitness Center or on game day at Lawrence A. Wien Stadium ticket windows 1, 2, 3 and 4. Tickets can be held at will call and picked up on game day at the stadium.

GETTING THERE

Baker Athletics Complex is located at 533 W. 218th St. (west of Broadway). Neighborhood parking is limited and preferred parking is available only to those making qualifying gifts to Columbia Football. By subway, take the No. 1 train to 215th Street or the A train to Inwood – 207th St. (Note: Due to occasional service interruptions, we suggest you check the MTA website prior to travel: mta.info.) Complimentary shuttle buses from the Morningside campus will depart from the main gate at West 116th Street and Broadway starting 90 minutes prior to kickoff and will return to campus immediately following the game.

Save the Date!

SEPTEMBER 21
Football opener at Fordham

SEPTEMBER 28
Football home opener vs. Monmouth

OCTOBER 3
Women's Leadership Council Fall Event

OCTOBER 19
Homecoming, football vs. Penn

NOVEMBER 8
Women's basketball opener at LIU

NOVEMBER 9
Men's basketball opener vs. Maryland-Eastern Shore

For the latest news on Columbia athletics, visit **gocolumbialions.com.**

90 Years since the opening of the Baker Athletics Complex

123 Football teams in school history

142 Columbia senior student-athletes who graduated in May



Sheena Wright '90, '94L reads *The Hungry Caterpillar* during a United Way program at the Mott Haven Public Library in the Bronx.
PHOTO: NATALIE KEYSSAR



TRAIL BLAZER

Sheena Wright '90, '94L is first female CEO of United Way of New York City

By Yelena Shuster '09

As a 7-year-old, Sheena Wright '90, '94L watched on TV as her mother was arrested for protesting what she saw as racist tenure policies at Hunter College. A decade later, Wright followed in her mother's marching footsteps and chained herself to Hamilton Hall to protest perceived racial inequality at Columbia.

Now, at 43, Wright is still fighting to make a difference, except she's traded in placards and chants for fundraising goals and board meetings. She no longer protests for social justice; instead, she executes it every day as the recently appointed CEO and president of United Way of New York City. Wright is the first female to hold the title in the charity's more than 70-year history.

"The great thing about United Way is that it's citywide. We touch about a million New Yorkers," Wright says from her midtown office, which is decorated both with printouts of new mission statements and her 5-year-old son's crayon drawings. "We are able to not only identify, fund and co-create significant programs but we're also able to change policy that has an impact on systems and really can cause huge, wide-scale social change."

Wright knows the importance of such relief programs. She grew up in the impoverished South Bronx during the height of the '70s

"My mom's trajectory was just inspiring. Most people would think that's it, your own life and your own success are over. Through her own striving, she demonstrated that no matter what your obstacles, you can persevere and reach your goals."

crack epidemic with a single teen mom, who stood guard on their stoop so that Sheena and her older sister, Tanya, could play outside. Undeterred by hardship, their mother, Debra Fraser-Howze, not only finished high school but also earned a bachelor's from Hunter and a master's from Baruch.

Fraser-Howze recalls asking herself, "Are you going to wind up a statistic or are you going to get up and make things happen for you and your family?"

She chose the latter.

"My mom's trajectory was just inspiring," Wright says. "Most people would think that's it, your own life and your own success are over. Through her own striving, she demonstrated to us that no matter what your obstacles, you can persevere and reach your goals."

Fraser-Howze devoted herself to activism, working first at the New York Urban League and then founding the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS. "My mom took the issue head-on and said, 'This will not be a death sentence for these members of our community.' That's just who she is," Wright says. "And to me, that's an example of what I was supposed to do: to stand up for those who have obstacles put in their path."

As early as 3 years old, Wright stood out.

The precocious toddler sat in the back of her mother's Hunter College lecture, fitting right in at the "big people school" and even raising her hand to participate. "I remember touching her hair and saying 'No, baby, you can't answer the questions,'" says Fraser-Howze, laughing. "She loved it. She was always excited to be there. She was very wide-eyed and ready to learn."

So much so that Wright woke up every morning grabbing books to read. "I had to make her stop reading so she would get dressed," recalls Fraser-Howze, who herself cooked with a pasta ladle in one hand and a book in the other. "We all knew she was particularly gifted. She could breeze through something and go in and ace the test. It was really remarkable."

Fraser-Howze didn't intend to let her daughter's gifts go to waste. Wright was a student in the worst-performing school district in the city until her mother intervened. Both sisters had outpaced their peers in reading scores and Fraser-Howze petitioned another school district to let them attend a high-performing middle school in the North Bronx. The sisters commuted three hours a day for the privilege of experiencing quality education for the first time. Both also signed up for a free after-school tennis program sponsored by Pepsi. Wright turned out to be as skilled with a racquet as she was with her No. 2 pencil.

The Pepsi executive leading the program, John Hoffman '79 GS, also happened to be recruiting a more diverse student body for George School, a Pennsylvania Quaker boarding school he had attended. He met Wright, who was already a year ahead of her peers in school, and was immediately impressed. "She was this pint-sized little girl. She must have been 4-ft.-10, if that, brimming with energy, bright-eyed, bushy-tailed," he says. "It was extraordinary how vibrant and mature she was for an 11-year-old, so I was sold." The director of admissions hesitated because of Wright's age, but changed his mind after interviewing her. At 12, Wright enrolled in the high school with a full scholarship and quickly found her footing. In addition to her strong academic performance, she became the best runner on the girls' varsity cross country team two weeks into her first year despite no prior experience.



Class Day: Left to right, Hollee Freeman '90; Dr. Michael Jones '90, '94 P&S; Wright; Gregory Gittens '90; and Michelle Byrd '91.
PHOTO COURTESY SHEENA WRIGHT '90, '94L

Wright enrolled at Columbia before she was old enough to get a driver's license. "She started at 16 and nobody would have guessed it from the way she behaved. She's quite something," recalls Roger Lehecka '67, '74 GSAS, who worked at the College for more than 30 years, the majority of the time as dean of students. "My main memory of Sheena is as a student leader. She brought people together because she was so charismatic. The ball of energy she is now, she always was."

In addition to lettering in varsity track and field and cross country, the history and sociology major was president of Delta Sigma Theta and head of the Cultural Affairs Committee of the Black Students Organization. Wright also co-founded the Pan-African House, a special



Wright led the United Way of New York City's relief efforts on Coney Island in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy.
PHOTO COURTESY UNITED WAY OF NEW YORK CITY

interest housing community devoted to raising awareness of diversity across the globe, especially apartheid in South Africa. "It was a great way to learn about organization and leadership — how do you organize a collective around an issue and achieve results?" Wright says.

The specific results she was after included more diversity in the Core Curriculum and pushing Columbia to divest from companies that conducted business in South Africa. "We believed economic sanctions were a big driver in social change," Wright says. After a brawl outside student center Ferris Booth Hall in 1987, she and fellow activists chained themselves to the entrance of Hamilton Hall — a hallowed Columbia protest tradition. Their efforts spotlighted the need for greater multiculturalism, and Columbia announced an African-American studies major in 1987, a policy of complete divestment from business in South Africa in 1988 and the Major Cultures (now Global Core) requirement in 1990.

Maurice Coleman '91, a fellow protester and student-athlete, remembers Wright's influence. "Sheena was an important part of pushing the University in thinking about how it could become better and how it could leverage its own backyard — the cultural richness of Harlem — to enhance its offerings while also enhancing the relationship with the community." Coleman, an SVP at Bank of America, adds, "I just thought she was a leader, and she proved herself to be exactly that."

Despite her prep school and Ivy League bona fides, Wright never forgot her roots, volunteering at Community Impact and the Double Discovery Center to support underprivileged teens in Harlem. "She was an immediate personification of what youth who are walking around the greater Columbia community could aspire to," Coleman says. "Those of us who were behind her saw her as a role model that we would strive to emulate. She was strong and fiercely competitive on the track field, and she was equally competitive and equally strong academically, and just as socially conscious."

Wright's Columbia education didn't end at the College. She returned to the Law School after a stint at *The New York Times* as an editorial assistant. Despite enrolling with a 1-year-old son in tow, she graduated as a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar for outstanding academic achievement. "Most people would have been defeated by that set of circumstances and she was not, which makes me think nothing will ever defeat Sheena," says Lehecka. "If I ever needed a lawyer and she was practicing law, I'd want her."

His was not a minority opinion. In 1994, Wright landed a coveted position at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, a prestigious firm famed for handling high-stakes transactions of Fortune 500 companies. There, she was the second black female lawyer in the firm's history. Even in the corporate world, the value of social justice never left her. "I started thinking about how business is connected to inequity and how economic empowerment and access to capital can really level the playing field," she says.

In 1999, Wright became a senior associate at Reboul, MacMurray, Hewitt, Maynard & Kristol, where she negotiated, structured and executed financial deals for clients such as Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe. A year later, she became general counsel and EVP of business development at Crave Technologies, focusing on

product patents and negotiating investment partnerships. But after nearly a decade of mergers and acquisitions, Wright yearned for more fulfillment. "I needed to be doing work that was more closely connected to the community that I came from and helping people who started out with more similar circumstances to mine," she says.

Wright pursued her higher calling at the 205-year-old Abyssinian Baptist Church's nonprofit arm, the Abyssinian Development Corp. (ADC), one of Harlem's largest affordable housing developers focusing on community and economic enrichment. In 2002, she was tapped to be COO and later that year was promoted to president and CEO. As a member of the church and a longtime Harlem resident, she brought new life to the role. During her 10-year leadership, ADC built 785 units of residential housing in 78 buildings and nearly a half-million square feet of community, commercial and retail space, including the first new high school building in Harlem in 50 years, the Thurgood Marshall Academy for Learning and Social Change, creating more than 1,000 jobs in the process.

Additionally, Wright spearheaded the creation of the Abyssinian Schools division, which manages five educational institutions that annually serve 2,100 school children and their families. Wright developed an award-winning workforce development program that has helped 200 high school dropouts obtain their GED or high school diploma. She also developed a neighborhood-based Naturally Occurring Retirement Community that annually serves more than 1,000 seniors.

"It was wonderful to be working on the ground in the neighborhood I came of age in," the mother of three says. "Looking at the young people we served in our schools or through our youth programs was like looking at me and my friends and my neighbors growing up and being able to give them what I was able to get. It was very, very fulfilling."

During Wright's tenure at ADC, then-chairman Larry Dais '76 Business — who had been Columbia's assistant v.p. and director of the Office of Government and Community Affairs for 37 years — witnessed firsthand the impact she had on the community. "ADC provided the vehicle for her to bring about meaningful and measurable changes in the Harlem community," Dais says. "Sheena's commitment to community and public service has been the core of her professional life. I think she'll be focused on doing that for the rest of her life."

"Expect that people will underestimate you as a woman, and use that to propel you forward," advises Wright.
PHOTO: NATALIE KEYSSAR



"It was wonderful to be working on the ground in the neighborhood I came of age in. Looking at the young people we served in our schools or through our youth programs was like looking at me and my friends and my neighbors growing up and being able to give them what I was able to get. It was very, very fulfilling."

On her first day at United Way of New York City, Wright hit the ground running — literally — as the Northeast was struck by Hurricane Sandy. Without access to electricity or the office, she led relief efforts by mobilizing hundreds of volunteers to check on the elderly and disabled living in Coney Island's high-rise apartments. She also created and managed the United Way Hurricane Sandy Recovery Fund, which has raised more than $10 million.

Since then, her days have been spent on strategic planning sessions, fundraising and managing the execution and operations of the organization. Thus far, she has already revised its mission and vision statements, and looks forward to helping the national United Way campaign double the number of kids reading proficiently by 2020 in some of the toughest neighborhoods. "Right now in New York City, only 30 percent of kids are reading at grade level by the end of third grade," she says, explaining that such a deficiency at a young age leads to higher drop-out rates. "It puts us in a scary place as a city without having a well-educated population that is going to innovate and drive the economy and be successful citizens."



Wright with Ted Mousi (left) and Joseph Cabrera '82 at the kickoff to the annual Gridiron Gala, which benefits United Way-led initiatives in NYC.
PHOTO: COURTESY UNITED WAY OF NEW YORK CITY

Wright's fierce work ethic is what impressed Robert J. Kueppers, chairman of the Board of Directors and chief volunteer officer of United Way of New York City. "Her vision and her intensity were clearly very appealing, which is impressive particularly given that she's 10–15 years younger than your typical CEO," he says. "Her track record is impressive. She is the next-generation woman to move us forward in our 75th year."

Kueppers is not alone in singing Wright's praises. Everyone from Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) to Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz has lauded the nonprofit star. Hoffman, who recruited Wright for prep school years ago, believes she can end up like another illustrious College alum with a background in community service. "I wouldn't be surprised if you told me she was running for President of the United States," he says. "She's as brilliant as they come. She's a phenomenal people person. She's very energetic, very driven. She's got all her ducks in a row."

Wright is open to the general idea of political office: "It is extremely important who holds political power and how policies are made and resources allocated. The dearth of women in political office is astonishing, and I would not rule out an opportunity to serve."

To wit, Wright is passionate about helping women in any office shatter the glass ceiling. "Expect that people will underestimate you because you're a woman and use that to propel you forward," she advises. "Don't be surprised by that, because unfortunately in 2013 in the United States of America, there's still a lot of disparity and sexism in the workplace that you have to contend with and it's real." From her corporate days, Wright remembers meetings with mostly white men, where she would be asked to get coffee or take notes. The words "I'm a lawyer just like you; I'm not the assistant" became routine. "There are always going to be assumptions about who you are and why you're in the room and what you know and what you don't know," she says.

Yet she's been overcoming that type of prejudice since her days at the mostly white George School, when a classmate said she had three strikes against her for being black, female and poor. That made no sense to Wright: three strikes means you're out, and even back then, she was very much in the game.

"Other people look at you and say those are strikes against you. I say maybe those are things that make me better. Maybe they make me stronger, more resilient, more focused," Wright says. "Those experiences of being a person of color in a country that has a lot of racism and being a woman where there are a lot of gender stereotypes — maybe those things make me stronger, maybe better, but they definitely don't strike me out."

Yelena Shuster '09 *is a freelance writer living in Brooklyn. Her work has appeared in* Cosmopolitan, Us Weekly *and* New York *magazines. Follow her on Twitter @YelenaShuster.*



"For more than half a century, Ted de Bary has been the soul of Columbia College."
— Andrew Delbanco
PHOTO: NATALIE KEYSSAR

Loyal to His Core

As a Columbia teacher, scholar, academic statesman and alumnus, Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, '53 GSAS has long exemplified the highest standards of character and service. The private man might come as a surprise.

By Jamie Katz '72, '80 Business

Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, '53 GSAS has trod the herringbone brick walkways of the Morningside campus for as long as anyone can remember. One of the towering figures of modern Columbia history, he has always stood out, always risen above the crowd. He has done so mainly by force of character, taking on challenges at every stage with discipline and purpose, loyal to his people and his principles alike. Still teaching at 94, Ted de Bary, the John Mitchell Mason Professor Emeritus and Provost Emeritus, may be the most genuinely respected person in the University community.



De Bary has been a presence on the Columbia campus for more than a half-century and has fought to preserve the University's commitments to undergraduate teaching and curricular integrity.
PHOTO: PHILIPPE CHENG/CCT

De Bary led Columbia to the forefront of Asian studies while embodying

Those who knew de Bary, say, 25 or 30 years ago, could easily have pictured him in a position of national prominence. Secretary of State, perhaps. Wise and steady, unruffled in crisis, with the bow-tied elegance and comportment of a seasoned ambassador, he certainly fits the part. As one of the world's leading scholars of Asian thought, de Bary would have added a welcome dimension to the councils of foreign policy. Indeed, he did consider a career in the diplomatic corps when the opportunity arose in 1946.

Returning from duty as a naval intelligence officer in the Pacific during WWII, he was assigned to the Office of Naval Intelligence in Washington, D.C., as head of the Far East desk. "At the end of the war," he says, "I could have transferred from the Navy to the State Department at a roughly equivalent rank to lieutenant commander, so it would have been a good deal."

Instead, he chose to return to the academic world, where he had interrupted his graduate studies at Harvard by enlisting in the service in January 1942, soon after Pearl Harbor. After his discharge, however, de Bary switched to Columbia at the urging of his fellow Naval officer and close friend Donald Keene '42, '49 GSAS, who felt they would both benefit from advanced study with Ryūsaku Tsunoda, a pioneer of Japanese studies at Columbia. "With the GI Bill and a fellowship, I was able to manage it," says de Bary, adding, "I have never regretted the choice."

Columbia hasn't regretted it either. In the years to come, de Bary — along with distinguished scholars such as Keene [see "*Sensei* and Sensibility," Winter 2011–12] — would lead Columbia to the forefront of Asian studies while embodying the ideal of the virtuous citizen in every sphere of university life — as a teacher, scholar, academic leader, parent and alumnus.

There are voluminous records of de Bary's scholarly and public life — 31 books written or edited, extensive correspondence, the minutes and reports of innumerable conferences and committees, and interviews for Columbia's Center for Oral History conducted by historian John T. Mason Jr. in 1986 and longtime Associate College Dean Michael Rosenthal '67 GSAS in 2010 (which have furnished some of the material for this article). For years, de Bary says, people urged him to write his autobiography. Instead, he recently published *The Great Civilized Conversation: Education for a World Community*, which, he says, "amounts to an intellectual biography." In it, he shares a central idea that touches on a good part of his career.

"For centuries," de Bary writes, "a conversation has been going on in both Asia and the West about the values that could sustain a human community, but there has been only limited exchange *between* the two conversations. Today, the challenges of the contemporary world are such that the civilizing process can only be sustained through an education that includes (at least in part) sharing in the traditional curricula developed on both sides, based on classics now recognized as not only enduring, but world class."

To understand the full arc of de Bary's Columbia career, the clock must be turned back to September 1937, when as an 18-year-old freshman out of Leonia (N.J.) H.S., he arrived in Hamilton Hall for the first meeting of his required course in Contemporary Civilization. His CC instructor was the American historian Harry J. Carman (Class of 1919 GSAS), who would be named Dean of the College six years later. "Of course, you know that the title 'Contemporary Civilization' so far has only applied to Western civilization," Carman told his students that morning. "I hope some of you will prepare yourselves to learn what is needed to bring Asia into the picture."

Seldom has a professorial suggestion been taken more to heart, starting with de Bary's enrollment in Chinese classes as a sophomore. He added Japanese in graduate school and at the Navy's Japanese/Oriental Language School.

De Bary's erudition and leadership potential must have been evident to his CC teacher early on, because in 1949, with de Bary still four years away from a Ph.D., Carman charged him with developing a core program in what was then called Oriental Civilizations and Oriental Humanities.

A key element was the creation of a series of sourcebooks — texts, in translation, of Chinese, Japanese and South Asian classics. De Bary set about recruiting brilliant translators and editors such as Keene for the Japanese texts and historian (and future CC and Asian Civilizations director) Ainslie Embree '60 GSAS for the multiple volumes of *Sources of Indian Tradition*, an anthology that includes works from Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal. The first of them was published by Columbia University Press in 1958, and the series has since expanded to include volumes of Korean, Vietnamese and Tibetan classics, with others in development. They are in perennial demand, says Jennifer Crewe, editorial director of Columbia University Press. "Asian Studies is one of the press' largest and most prestigious lists, and it couldn't have been without Ted de Bary," she says.

De Bary chaired the Department of East Asian Languages and

Cultures from 1960–66, when he was named the Carpentier Professor of Oriental Studies. The department grew substantially in those years and moved to Kent Hall, former home of the Law School. In the aftermath of the 1968 student uprising, de Bary chaired the Executive Committee of the newly formed Columbia University Senate. He was appointed Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost — the University's highest academic office — in 1971, serving until 1978. At the same time, he was producing groundbreaking scholarship on East Asian religious and intellectual traditions, especially Confucianism in China, Japan and Korea. De Bary crossed over to emeritus status in 1990 but has remained an active citizen of the academic community in every way, and, increasingly, acted as gadfly, prodding the administration and faculty to hold true to the University's historic commitments to undergraduate teaching and the Core.

There was a moment, however, when de Bary wavered in his otherwise unshakable loyalty to Columbia. In 1960, Stanford approached him about developing its East Asian program. It was an attractive offer from a first-class institution on the rise. "They had a lot to offer in the way of inducements, monetary and otherwise," he recalls. "So I considered it. I went out there, I visited and I saw what the situation was and what would be the situation for my kids."



De Bary chaired the late-1980s Commission on the Core Curriculum. Left to right, Professors Paul Anderer, Jacob W. Smit, de Bary and Steven Marcus '48, '61 GSAS.
PHOTO: JESSICA RAIMI/*CCT*

In part, his decision depended on Keene. De Bary had gone to great lengths to bring about Keene's return to Columbia from the University of Cambridge in 1955, and felt he could not accept Stanford's offer unless Keene was also brought on board. So Stanford upped the ante to include Keene. When de Bary still hesitated, Stanford sweetened the pot some more, offering the possibility of a top-level faculty appointment with no expectation of teaching. For de Bary, that settled the matter — and not the way Stanford had hoped. "No self-respecting college or university would offer that," de Bary concluded.

In the decades since, it has become commonplace for universities to lure academic stars by offering reduced teaching loads. But de Bary is having none of it, nor is he happy about the unification of the Arts and Sciences faculties in 1991, a move he feels deprived the College of a faculty body dedicated to its unique curricular issues. As a student, he benefited from a Core Curriculum that was taught, and constantly reviewed and refined, by some of the leading lights of American education — Jacques Barzun '27, '32 GSAS; Mark Van Doren '21 GSAS; and Moses Hadas '30 GSAS, among many others. Their examples guide him to this day.

De Bary has emerged through time as a preeminent champion of the Core. That mission is supported by the Heyman Center for the Humanities, which de Bary established in 1976, and the Society of Senior Scholars, also founded by de Bary — a group of distinguished retired faculty who add their instructional firepower to the Core's multi-departmental teaching staff. There is a long list of other de Bary initiatives that have added texture and substance to Columbia's intellectual community, among them the Lionel Trilling Seminars, the University Lectures, the Society of Fellows in the Humanities and the Alumni Colloquia in the Humanities. For all this and more, he has earned the gratitude of students, colleagues and alumni. He has received numerous honors from alma mater, including the College's Alexander Hamilton Medal, the Society of Columbia Graduates' Great Teacher Award and an honorary doctorate, as well as major recognition beyond the campus gates, such as membership in the prestigious Japan Academy in Tokyo.

the ideal of the virtuous citizen in every sphere of university life.

Tao Tan '07, '11 Business took five courses with de Bary at the College while majoring in economics and history. "The experience of studying with someone who is a living link to the time when senior faculty involvement in the Core was commonplace, and who wholeheartedly embraces the Core's educational philosophy, is extraordinary," says Tan, a former University senator who is now an international business consultant. "The fact that Professor de Bary takes it so seriously is an inspiration to the rest of us, both as students and as alumni of Columbia College."

Says Andrew Delbanco, director of Columbia's Center for American Studies and the Julian Clarence Levi Professor in the Humanities, "Through his tireless teaching he has taught — and exemplified — what it means to be civilized. For more than half a century, Ted de Bary has been the soul of Columbia College."

Reducing matters to their simplest terms, Peter Nosco '71, '78 GSAS, professor of Asian studies at the University of British Columbia, wrote on the Columbia250 website in 2004: "Ted is Mr. Columbia."

When de Bary spotted a beautiful freshman, Fanny Brett '43 Barnard, at a Sunday afternoon tea dance in Barnard's Brooks Hall during his junior year, "I fell in love at first sight," he says. "I subsequently learned that just about everybody fell in love with her at first sight." They were married in 1942.

Housing was scarce when they returned to the New York area

after the war, and they already had two kids; two more were to come. They spent four years in renovated army barracks at Camp Shanks, in Orangeburg, N.Y., with de Bary away in China for part of the time conducting his graduate research. In 1950, a group of 32 families formed a cooperative and purchased a former pig farm on a wooded hillside in Tappan, N.Y., in Rockland County. They divided the property into one-acre plots and assisted each other in building California ranch-style homes, roads and eventually, common facilities for get-togethers and recreation. It all took a lot of effort, and the de Bary plot, in particular, presented serious challenges. It was basically a swamp. "Nobody wanted to contend with it," he says now, chuckling at the memory.

Hydrology may have been one of the core disciplines of Chinese education during the Sui and Tang dynasties more than a thousand years ago, but it was never part of the liberal arts curriculum at Columbia. So de Bary had to puzzle out the swamp problem for himself. It was not so different, at heart, from many of the tasks he has taken on in life.

He first cut trenches with a backhoe to drain down to an artificial pond. The next part was tougher, he says. "I had to lay the pipe at the bottom of the trench, at a bad time of the year, in December. The trench would freeze up and then thaw, so the sides of the trench would collapse. I had to shovel out a lot of mud to lay the pipe. You have to put a bed of gravel down. It took some doing."

Yet he didn't give in to any of the obstacles, and his family soon had a comfortable place to live — three bedrooms, a living room, kitchen and basement. De Bary still calls it home. The provostial, bow-tied dignitary people saw on campus was, in private, a man of great modesty and simplicity. At home on a Sunday afternoon, he greets visitors at his screen door in an untucked work shirt. He was, and remains, a dedicated vegetable gardener, growing lettuce, cabbages, kale, collards, string beans, tomatoes and squash. "We didn't have a lot of money, and there were four kids in the family," says his son, Paul '68, '71L, '71 Business, a retired Wall Street lawyer and oenophile who lives in Cos Cob, Conn. "There were times when it was even difficult to put food on the table, so the garden was a big deal for my father."

The de Barys also had three daughters: Brett '65 Barnard, a professor of Japanese literature and film at Cornell; Catherine de Bary Sleight '73 Barnard, '77J, who succumbed to breast cancer three years ago; and Beatrice de Bary-Heinrichs '84 GSAS, who graduated from Williams and is a junior high school teacher in Springfield, Mass. So far, there are 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

There are many things people are surprised to learn about de Bary. All of his teaching in retirement has been on a pro bono basis. He donates his publishing royalties to an endowment fund supporting Asian Studies, and hopes to steer the funds more specifically to instructional support for Asian Humanities. He was born in the Bronx to a German-born father and an American mother, who divorced while he was a child, and his first name was abbreviated to "Wm." because his father was also William. One of his great-uncles, Heinrich Anton de Bary, was a celebrated botanist who discovered symbiosis.

As a teenager in the 1930s, de Bary was active in the Young People's Socialist League. He jitterbugged in Harlem and Greenwich Village to Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Louis Armstrong and Bud Freeman. After Britain came under German attack, de Bary

"I have thought of myself as engaged in a continuing conversation



De Bary in his Kent Hall office, a virtual library of Asian philosophy and literature.
PHOTO: NATALIE KEYSSAR

was one of a group of student leaders invited to visit with Eleanor Roosevelt in the White House to discuss ways of supporting the Allies. As a Fulbright Scholar in Beijing in fall 1948, he was among the Americans airlifted out by the U.S. ambassador when the city was surrounded by Mao's revolutionary troops.

Raised as a Protestant, de Bary converted to Roman Catholicism in the late 1940s. He is a registered Democrat. He cared about the civil rights movement and took part in the 1963 March on Washington. He saw his first Columbia football game in 1927, rooted for Hall of Fame quarterback Sid Luckman '39 at Baker Field, and, as an alumnus, attended every home game for more than 50 years (with the exception of sabbatical leaves). He has never learned to type. "I don't think Ted approves of any modern device," says Keene.

"Sometimes Ted is very forbidding," Keene adds. "He comes to the point very quickly and he doesn't have the charm of some people. But when I first knew him, he was crazy



De Bary met Fanny Brett '43 Barnard at a tea dance in Brooks Hall. They were married for 67 years.
PHOTO: JOE PINIERO/COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

wanted one," Keene says. "Instead, they sang songs of every kind together. I can't imagine a happier, closer-knit family." Fanny and Ted "were the perfect married couple," he says. "Her death [in 2009] was, I think, the worst thing that ever happened to him."

De Bary has suffered other painful losses — among them his close faculty colleague Irene T. Bloom '76 GSAS, who chaired Barnard's Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Cultures for many years; classmates such as Joe Coffee '41, who founded the Columbia College Fund, *CCT* and many other staples of alumni life; and of course, his daughter Catherine. But losing Fanny meant losing the great love of his life.

Dawn Ho Delbanco (who is married to Andrew Delbanco) has taught Asian Art Humanities for 20 years, and her late father, Wai-kam Ho, knew de Bary in Canton (now Guangzhou) 65 years ago. She was among the many who were moved when de Bary sang "When It's Springtime in the Rockies" at Fanny's memorial service in St. Paul's Chapel.

that started long ago and will, I hope, go on long after me."

about jazz. It was I who made him listen to classical music. His first book was a translation of a book by [Ihara] Saikaku, *Five Women Who Loved Love: Amorous Tales From 17th-Century Japan*. He is not stuffy, not cold, although sometimes he might give that impression."

Keene met de Bary in the Navy's Japanese/Oriental Language School. In college de Bary had been manager of the Debate Council and chairman of the student governing board. "He was a year ahead of me, and he was a big man on campus — everyone knew what he was doing," Keene says. "I was a very little man on campus. Nobody knew about me."

De Bary says they bonded almost immediately in the Navy because of their shared experience in the Core. They roomed together in Hawaii when both were assigned to the headquarters of Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet. De Bary landed on Okinawa and served in the Aleutian Islands and elsewhere. All the while, he and Keene maintained a correspondence, later published as a book, *War-Wasted Asia: Letters, 1945–46*. De Bary describes Keene as his "Columbia soul brother."

The feeling is mutual. "I knew I could always talk to him," Keene says. "At times when I was depressed or something, I would turn to him for help. It wasn't that I needed him to say everything is OK, but just being with him, I felt better and stronger." He adds, "I know my own faults, but I don't know Ted's, because I don't think he has them."

Keene was a frequent guest of the de Barys — "like an uncle in our family," Paul de Bary says — and he was delighted by the warmth of their home. "They never had a television set, and never

In her course, Delbanco explains some of the differences in the aesthetics of traditional Asian cultures.

"Whereas Chinese artists often present things in the ideal, the way they should be," she says, "Japanese artists are more likely to find beauty in the seemingly unimportant, the broken, the aged, the imperfect. For them, true beauty lies not in perfection but in the sensing of its evanescence. It's when something is almost gone that you most treasure it: so, beauty and melancholy are closely intertwined."

As a student of Asian culture and a man who has lived a long and full life, de Bary understands the transience of beauty and the melancholy of loss. There is an inner grace to him, a sense that he has experienced and considered many things and must act on his beliefs. Though his age and health no longer permit him to move about the campus with the spryness of years past, he is still teaching two College courses this fall: his colloquium in Asian Humanities and his seminar in Eastern and Western classics, "Nobility and Civility" — words that many feel describe de Bary personally. He demurs at the characterization. "I don't think of that necessarily in connection with myself. Nobility and civility represent two aspects of the human ideal: personal virtue — intellectual and moral — and social conduct, especially in the form of dialogue and civil discourse."

More simply, he says, "I have thought of myself as engaged in a continuing conversation that started long ago and will, I hope, go on long after me."

Former CCT *Editor* **Jamie Katz '72, '80 Business** *has held senior editorial positions at* People *and* Vibe, *and now writes for* Smithsonian *magazine and other publications.*

New Orleans' Music Man

After 25 years in NOLA, Scott Aiges '86 is dedicated to preserving and promoting its musical traditions

By Alexis Tonti '11 Arts



Scott Aiges '86 is director of programs, marketing and communications for The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation.
PHOTO: KELLI BINNINGS/SCENE MAGAZINE

There is a small hill to the east of Congo Square, on the border of the Tremé and French Quarter neighborhoods in New Orleans, which approached from a certain angle obscures what lies beyond.

And so it was, after drifting through the quiet Quarter streets one Sunday afternoon in March, that an intermittent blast of horn and roll of snare drum was hardly preparation for the sight, upon cresting the hill, of roughly 150 students — members of 13 middle and high school brass bands — milling about under a cloudless sky. All wore the standard brass band uniform of white button-down shirt and black pants; some had added bowties or neckties and white, black-brimmed caps. Between them they carried bass and snare drums, trumpets, trombones and tubas, saxophones, a few clarinets and at least one banjo.

The occasion was the Class Got Brass competition, part of the two-day Congo Square New World Rhythms Festival. The day before had been rain-threatened and lightly attended, which made the contrast in audience all the more stark. By the time festival workers laid out metal barricades to create an alley for the bands to parade through, more than 600 people had gathered. Each band performed a five-minute program that opened with a dirge before shifting to a medley of up-tempo numbers. The energy was infectious, uplifting. The audience clapped and bounced and stomped and sung.



Middle and high school students carry on the New Orleans-style brass band tradition in the Class Got Brass competition.
PHOTO: KIM WELSH

Microphone in hand, offering color commentary from his on-stage spot next to the judges' panel, was Scott Aiges '86. The competition is his brainchild, designed to promote both music education in Louisiana schools and the New Orleans-style brass band tradition, and is one of many events he oversees as director of programs, marketing and communications for The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation. The foundation is one of the city's central nonprofits and guardian of its cultural traditions, best known for producing the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival — Jazz Fest to the more than 400,000 attendees who come to the city's Fair Grounds Race Course over two weekends each spring. The multi-stage music and food extravaganza pumps about $300 million a year into the local economy, and though Aiges' focus during Jazz Fest is on managing a complementary business conference, his overall work relies on its success. Referring to producer Quint Davis, Aiges says, "Quint's job is to make the money and my job is to spend it."

Aiges is well suited for his position. He has lived in New Orleans since the late '80s and was a longtime music writer for *The Times-Picayune*, the city's daily newspaper, as well as the director of music business development under Mayor C. Ray Nagin from 2002–05. He also has been a band manager, a booking agent and an independent events producer, through it all making himself into one of the most versed, and versatile, people on the local music scene. In the crucible of the Crescent City, known for jazz in all its many forms as well as for soul, R&B, Cajun, zydeco, bounce and hip-hop, that's saying a lot.

Watching Aiges backstage while the Class Got Brass votes were tallied, it was clear he wears his role comfortably. A self-described Type A personality, he seemed in constant motion — attending to details, phone pressed to his ear more often than not. When the closing act arrived, he pointed them toward barrels of ice water and Abita beer. Next came his production manager, wielding a decibel meter and concerns about noise levels. A stranger wandered over to suggest an act for Jazz Fest. A text message arrived and he tapped out an answer. For his wife, Lisanne Brown '86 Barnard, he stopped and shared a dance.

On the Thursday before the Congo Square festival, Aiges is driving along Chartres Street through the Bywater neighborhood, where he has lived for 15 years. To the right are industrial lots and the broad expanse of the Mississippi River. To the left, houses, retailers and restaurants in pastel shades and various states of renovation speak to the neighborhood boom of the past five years. Aiges keeps up a tour guide patter, in between talking about his background: He was raised in Fort Lee, N.J., graduated from Deerfield Academy, a boarding school in Massachusetts, and chose Columbia so he could be closer to home. He met Brown while studying at Butler Library in December of his senior year. He'd been noticing her for weeks and one afternoon, when they were at the same table, she posed the open question of whether anyone wanted coffee. Aiges offered to go with her. "My one smooth move," he says with a laugh.

After graduation, the political science major spent time as a freelance journalist in Nicaragua before moving to Washington, D.C., to write for the States News Service. "Their shtick was they hired these really young reporters who were willing to work for no money, and we acted as the Washington bureau for regional papers in different states." (His was Pennsylvania.) It was solid training, but after nearly two years he craved a livelier milieu. He and Brown, then still his girlfriend, pulled out a map and drew up lists of towns with decent newspapers where he might be interested in trying to get a job.

Not on the list was New Orleans, although Aiges, a guitar player since childhood, had lately found his way to the city's music through a friend with whom he played in a band, The Wires. "He's the one who turned me on to The Meters and Dr. John, The Neville Brothers, zydeco — all that. I'd known nothing. I hadn't even known about Mardi Gras." During lunch one day with a different bandmate who also was a journalist, Aiges started agitating about his need for a change. The friend mentioned that the *Picayune* was hiring.

"It was like I was hit with a bolt of lightning. And what I said to him was, 'You mean, people actually live there?' New Orleans was just a fantasy place to me."

The city also appealed to Brown, for whom Tulane offered a fit for her public health interests. (She earned an M.P.H. and a Ph.D.









Aiges learned some hard lessons about trying to be an objective journalist while being part of the community.

in epidemiology.) Aiges applied and landed an interview. With the meeting scheduled on a Monday, the couple flew down on Friday for a long weekend: "The Neville Brothers were at Tipitina's on Saturday night, and we were hooked. That was it," Aiges says.

The *Picayune* assigned him to St. John the Baptist Parish, part of the River Parishes Bureau. Because the paper required reporters to live in the area covered by their bureau, he rented an apartment in Destrehan, often driving the 40 minutes into the city to go out at night; Brown stayed a while longer in D.C. "I had no idea that I was in the most obscure bureau in the most obscure place in the world and that nobody really cared what I was doing," says Aiges. "I was taking it seriously. And I was having a great, great time."

"This was the industrial corridor along the Mississippi River, upriver from New Orleans," says then-bureau chief Ron Thibodeaux, an editor with the newspaper for 25 years. "Not the most scenic place you've ever been, but a great place to be a journalist. The politics are nasty and the dynamics of power — the way the industries influence everyday life and the day-to-day operations out there — are interesting to sink your teeth into."

He recalls Aiges as "talented but not at all a prima donna" and recounts the time when Aiges and a photographer staked out a public official's vacation home, on the southwest corner of Lake Pontchartrain, on a tip that the official was using public equipment to make improvements to private property. The official spotted and confronted them, and "the next thing we knew, Scott and the photographer are being hauled off to jail for misdemeanor trespass on this guy's property — they hadn't [trespassed], of course, but it was happening." Thibodeaux posted bail, the article documenting it all was published and caught the attention of the EPA, and the public official eventually was indicted. "He ended up going to prison for violating the federal clean water act based on the story that Scott wrote, which he had to work pretty hard for; that's a pretty good indication of his determination to get the story and to go full throttle at anything he did."

Thibodeaux adds that Louisiana is different from any other place in the country — "with a rich and exotic history and peculiar ways about a lot of things" — and that it can be a challenge to adapt. "But Scott was excited about landing here and he did great work. He was very open to my direction and guidance about not only the professional stuff and how to do his work better but also getting attuned to the rhythms of what makes Louisiana different and special. He certainly embraced it and never let go."



Aiges and his wife, Lisanne Brown '86 Barnard, celebrate the Saints' Super Bowl victory in 2010; opposite, scenes from the Congo Square New World Rhythms Festival.

PHOTOS: COURTESY SCOTT AIGES '86; OPPOSITE, ALL COURTESY NEW ORLEANS JAZZ & HERITAGE FOUNDATION/(CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT) ERIC SIMON, ERIC SIMON, KIM WELSH, KIM WELSH

After about a year, a posting went up for the position of music reporter — the first in the *Picayune*'s history. "It was incredible that a daily newspaper in New Orleans up until the late 1980s didn't have its own full-time music writer," says Thibodeaux, who often spoke with Aiges about their shared interest in rock music. "Scott sheepishly came to me and said 'I'd like to apply' and I said I thought he'd be perfect for it."

Aiges imagined he'd be competing against established music writers from outlets like *The New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times* and *Billboard*, and thought his chances slight; the *Picayune*'s editor viewed the beat differently. "He told me to come down to the main office and we went for coffee and he said — I'll never forget this — 'You have a perfectly promising career as a newspaper reporter, what are you doing? Music? Seriously?'" Aiges made the case that music coverage could encompass more than show previews and reviews; he wanted to treat it as a cultural phenomenon as well as explore the business side, addressing, among other things, why the local industry wasn't prospering the way everybody thought it should. "And he bought it," Aiges says.

Aiges' first byline as a music writer was in October 1989 — about a series of surprise shows by Harry Connick Jr. at the jazz club Snug Harbor — and for the next six years he attended almost every major concert and club show, going out on the local scene six nights a week. Along the way he met musicians, club owners, producers, record label owners and just about everyone involved in the industry. He wrote album criticism and show reviews, features, musician profiles and industry news; his articles appeared in the news, living and business sections as well as Lagniappe, the Friday entertainment section. In 1993 Aiges garnered a Louisiana Press Association award for a series he co-wrote about the passing of the last generation of jazz musicians who were old enough to have seen Buddy Bolden, the "king" cornet player and progenitor of jazz, firsthand.

"It was my graduate school and the place where I learned about everything that goes into the music and culture of New Orleans. I gained tremendous respect for it, and I enjoyed it tremendously," Aiges says.

When Jazz Fest rolled around each April, he filed daily reviews from the fairgrounds, connecting to a dial-up modem from an early portable word processor in the press trailer. "I was dumb enough to think I was reporting for *The New York Times*, so I would try to see every act. I would carry my schedule around with checkmarks on the ones I'd seen and the ones I'd missed,



and then at 5 p.m. I'd go into the trailer and say, 'Of all this stuff, how do I put together one piece?'"

Aiges also learned some hard lessons about trying to be an objective journalist while being part of the community.

"I was meeting all of these people — some of them I really admired; some of them were actually my heroes," he says. He relates a story about The Meters, the legendary funk band including two of The Neville Brothers, vocalist Art and drummer Cyril, bassist George Porter Jr. and others. The group had reunited in 1989 after more than a decade apart, and through the year Aiges had interviewed band members individually, and in December reviewed their reunion concert, and in between he joined them for Thanksgiving.

Come January 1990, Aiges dropped by Ultrasonic Recording Studios one aimless afternoon. A group was working on the track for Aaron Neville's *Star Spangled Banner*, recorded ahead of time per CBS so he could lip-synch for the Super Bowl. In the process of layering in orchestral music, the engineers had discovered a lyrical slip-up: Neville sang "gave proof to the night" rather than "gave proof through the night."

"I walked in right when they finished fixing his mistake," Aiges says. "This was before digital editing technology, and basically someone had to go 'thr' into the mic. They told me this whole story, none of us thinking it was going to be in the paper. But after I left I realized what I had and wrote it up, not thinking anything of it." After the article ran, Aiges received a phone call from Art Neville. "He said, 'Aren't you the same man who came over and ate gumbo with us at Thanksgiving? Who do you think you are?'"

Aiges was speechless, crushed at the thought of having angered the entire Neville family, New Orleans' music royalty.

"In the end, it's probably things like that that contributed to my feeling that I didn't want to write anymore. I didn't want to be that guy with the notepad in the corner and have to maintain this distant relationship; I wanted to be in the mix and to have real relationships with people."

Other factors were at play. Aiges felt wrung out by the demands of his reporting schedule. Also, after years of 360-degree exposure to the music scene, "I thought that I was a lot smarter than I actually am; I just thought this whole thing was not that difficult, so I had this genius idea to quit a perfectly well-paying job to be a band manager and get into the music business and see if I could do it for real."

Aiges left the paper in October 1995, and the reality check followed quickly. From the challenges of getting club owners to return a phone call, to lining up gigs for a tour, to working with studios and recording budgets, to advocating for support from a music label, "It was not as easy or obvious as it seemed," he says. Still, he persisted for six years. Notably, he worked with the Continental Drifters, named in a 1994 *Rolling Stone* critics' poll as one of the two best unsigned bands in the country ("They made this incredibly cool, rootsy, pop-rock sound that was a cross between The Band and The Mamas & the Papas"). Later clients included Royal Fingerbowl, the New Orleans Klezmer All-Stars and a contemporary jazz band, Astral Project.

Looking back, he speaks with a weary wistfulness: "Managing a band is the best education about how to find your way around the business because you are literally involved with every single aspect of a professional career. I learned a lot. … All the bands that I worked with, none of them got rich and famous and it wasn't for lack of trying. It's an extremely competitive business and everything has to line up in the right way."

The experience also crystallized a question that has driven

"How can we help musicians learn to work smarter, to take advantage of technology, to help them access the global market?"



Above, audience members join Diblo Dibala on stage during a Congo Square New World Rhythms Festival. Opposite, a dancer with N'Fungola Sibo.

PHOTOS: COURTESY NEW ORLEANS JAZZ & HERITAGE FOUNDATION/ERIC SIMON

him in one form or another ever since: "How does one go about earning a living as a musician, not becoming rich and famous but just being sustainable, being able to make a career out of your chosen craft? How can one do that?"

One afternoon in early 2002, a friend of a friend was looking for someone to prep a mayoral candidate, C. Ray Nagin, on the music industry for an upcoming debate. Today the mention of Nagin's name to New Orleans residents is enough to elicit a sour reaction (he was indicted in January on 21 corruption charges); then he was just a businessman, an executive with Cox Communications, president of the New Orleans Brass hockey team and one of 15 candidates in what the *Picayune* billed early on as "the most unpredictable mayor's race in more than 20 years." Aiges frankly didn't even know the name, but he put some notes together and went to meet him. "I really liked him. I thought he was cool. He was young, he was funny. It was the first time I had ever seen a BlackBerry."

At the debate the next night, Aiges recalls, the moderator asked a music question and most of the candidates' flubbed their responses; then he saw Nagin reach into his pocket, pull out his notes and study them. "He took three things that I had told him and put them together in his own way that was very funny and very clever and got a standing ovation, and I was like — this is the guy!"

The next day, Aiges volunteered for the campaign. ("I didn't have a job and I used to watch *The West Wing* — I figured that was how these guys get their gigs.") Folding tables and plugging in telephones turned into writing email blasts to voters and, after Nagin was elected in March 2002, writing press releases and responding to constituent mail in the press office. In August, Aiges was hired to the newly created position of director of music business development in the Mayor's Office of Economic Development. The following summer, *New Orleans Magazine* cited him among its "People to Watch," part of the city's arts and entertainment dream team "dedicated to elevating the visibility of New Orleans as a viable place for artists, musicians and filmmakers to live and work."

"What I liked was his perspective," says Beth James, who ran the economic development office. "Typically you're either an artist or a business guy in the music industry, but Scott had a unique understanding of both sides. Because of that, and because of his personality, he was able to bring people together who had never even been in the same room, much less working toward a common goal." She adds that his moral compass is unshakable. "He tells people the truth; they can take his word for it."

Aiges advocated a trickle-up theory founded on the premise that the key to developing the local music business lay in putting more money into the hands of the musicians, who would then spend it on entertainment lawyers, booking agents and management companies. Then there were the nightclub owners, radio stations, record producers, recording studios and others in the industry who stood to benefit from a core of strong musicians.

The idea, says Aiges, was, "How can we help musicians learn to work smarter, to take advantage of technology, to help them access the global market? If they can develop more revenue streams by licensing their music to film and TV, by getting more gigs in Europe, by getting more teaching jobs or whatever else it may be, then hopefully little by little it will start to snowball." Among the initiatives that came under this umbrella was a deal to supply XM Satellite Radio with CDs from the city's up-and-coming,

"It's been pretty miraculous getting to do all the things I love to do most. I've been very lucky."

and unsigned, artists, and the New Orleans Music Business Co-Op facility, developed in partnership with Tipitina's Foundation, which provided artists with computer access, training and other promotional resources.

Most significantly, Aiges led the statewide effort to enact legislation creating tax incentives for the sound recording industry. He based his plan on Louisiana's film tax credit program, which had been passed in 2002. "Basically, I took a copy of the law, dropped it in a Word document, and everywhere it said film production I substituted 'sound recording.'"

The work grew more challenging from there, and in 2005 Aiges began lobbying in the state Legislature. As Aiges recalls, the mayor's office was indifferent to the bill while the governor's office opposed it, largely because of some financial wrinkles that had turned up in the film program with which it shared DNA. In the course of making daily trips to Baton Rouge he met Sherri McConnell, a lobbyist who had been tracking the progress of the first entertainment tax credits in the United States, and in particular the film law in Louisiana. She "became my crying shoulder," Aiges says.



Aiges with the late blues musician David "Honeyboy" Edwards in 2008.
PHOTO: COURTESY SCOTT AIGES '86

McConnell remembers seeing Aiges in committee, struggling with the legislative process. She offered to provide guidance pro bono. "He was really by himself in the effort, working for the city but truly out there and not being helped by whatever resources the city had to offer," she says. "We became fast friends and have been close ever since."

Recalling the backdrop of the state's budget crisis, McConnell points out that it wasn't easy to suggest "we're going to spend millions of dollars in providing tax breaks to people who are recording music, or anything for that matter. But Scott is passionate, articulate, convincing. I gave my guidance in terms of who he needed to talk to. But he does his research, and his ability to articulate the potential impact of the legislation and systematically move it through the process, he did that himself."

Passage remained dicey until the end, with Aiges and one of the governor's policy directors hammering out details on the last day of the legislative session in late June. In its final form, the Sound Recording Investment Act created refundable tax credits ranging from 10–20 percent for recording projects or infrastructure. Nagin finally gave his support, and Gov. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco touted it as one in a three-part package of entertainment industry bills (the others focused on expanded film incentives and digital media). Music industry professionals dreamed of siphoning business off from the city's "big three" competitors, Los Angeles, Nashville and New York. Aiges celebrated with a family trip to his parents' vacation home in East Hampton, returning to attend the governor's August 15 ceremonial bill-signing.

Two weeks later, on August 29, Hurricane Katrina hit.

Aiges recalls the surreality of the time; on Saturday morning prior to landfall, he was at a kids' birthday party, sitting under sunny skies and chatting with the other parents about what was then the earliest specter of evacuation and whether the storm would amount to anything. Arriving home, he found Brown standing in front of the television. "There was this enormous purple blob over the Gulf of Mexico and we looked at each other and went, 'Ummmm …'" They spent the next 12 hours packing and battening down the hatches.

The couple and their children, Ella and Ben, then 6 and 3, bounced from New Orleans to Birmingham and Huntsville, Ala., to Nashville and finally back to East Hampton to stay at his parents' place. Aiges worked remotely as best he could: "I'm trying to stay in touch with what's going on in my office at the city and everybody's dispersed, cell phones aren't working, nobody is replying to emails, nothing is happening — and I was the music guy, right? Everybody's calling. Bonnie Raitt wants to know what she can do for New Orleans, and I can't get anybody on the phone."

In October, he returned to find his immediate neighborhood had been spared the worst of the damage. The water on his property had filled the trunk of the car they left behind, and rose to about a foot-and-a-half in the backyard shed he used as an office. Their house, at three feet off the ground, was largely OK.

About the same time, the state hired Aiges as a short-term consultant, working through the nonprofit Louisiana Music Export Office that he created. His main charge: "to make sure everybody knows that Louisiana is still in business." (This included executing a major concert at South by Southwest (SXSW) Music Conference and Festival in Austin, Texas, in March 2006.) As for his job with the mayor's office, he organized a free Thanksgiving weekend rallying event with Kermit Ruffins and the Barbecue Swingers and other bands. Not long after, the work sputtered out altogether, part of the city's vast cutbacks.

The offices of The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation are on North Rampart Street in the Tremé, in a converted house full of hallways and small rooms — rumored to have been a brothel, Aiges says. His office is large and light-filled, with an L-shaped desk covered in papers and with awards clustered in one corner. Tacked onto a bulletin board are concert passes and crayon drawings by his children. The other available surfaces — walls, table and shelves,



The backstage view of Rebirth Brass Band; says Aiges, "When I look out and see Congo Square like that, that to me feels like a win."
PHOTO: COURTESY NEW ORLEANS JAZZ & HERITAGE FOUNDATION/ERIC SIMON

fireplace mantel — are covered with music-related photos and paraphernalia from his years with the foundation. He indicates a photo above his desk from last year's Congo Square New World Rhythms Festival, taken from the band's point of view and showing the shoulder-to-shoulder audience: "When I look out and see Congo Square like that, that to me feels like a win."

Aiges was hired at the foundation in November 2006. "Scott had done something very dynamic and visionary in helping the state establish the tax incentives for the recording industry," executive director Don Marshall says. "And he's always been a strong, passionate voice in the community for the music industry and the arts. After Katrina we really wanted to do more for the community, with a focus on helping rebuild the music and arts community. I was interested in creating new events and festivals to employ our musicians, helping them to get back here and survive, and Scott had had a lot of experience in that."

"It was the first time in my life where I got to a place where I wasn't the one music guy in the corner of the building. Everybody around me was focused on the same thing, and it was all about music," Aiges says.

His first task was planning and executing the Crescent City Blues Festival, one in a new series of smaller festivals (including Congo Square) designed to spotlight different niches in the city's musical culture. The production of these and other festivals and concerts, like the rest of Aiges' responsibilities, comes under the umbrella of education, economic development and cultural enrichment. He also coordinates lecture series, workshops and conferences, including Sync Up, the entertainment industry conference that takes place during Jazz Fest; oversees a grants program that distributes more than $300,000 annually to educational and cultural programs throughout Louisiana; and is the spokesman and marketer for the foundation.

"I never saw someone who could handle five projects simultaneously as he does and with the professionalism and creative vision that he does," Marshall says.

Aiges also oversees administration and curriculum development at the Don "Moose" Jamison Heritage School of Music, a free after-school program that teaches technique and theory of jazz to kids ages 11–17. Leaving the foundation office, Aiges points out the building next door — a former funeral home, paint-cracked and Gothic-columned — that is being refurbished as the first permanent home for the school. Plans call for seven state-of-the-art classrooms including drum and piano labs and technology for capturing audio and video for distance learning. The building is also to serve as a community center, with a 200-seat auditorium for concerts, lectures and other events, and a recording studio for local musicians. Aiges estimates it's two years from opening.

Reflecting on his work with the foundation, Aiges says, "It's been pretty miraculous getting to do all the things I love to do most. I get to throw these incredible parties and hire all of these musicians who are talented and inspiring, and we get to teach all these young people how to play, and to try to help people in the community figure out how to deal with issues, whether it's zoning and noise ordinances or accessing computer technology for the arts — it's an incredible platform. And we've got money to do all of this.

"All the time people say to me, you have the best job in the world, don't you? And I'm like, yeah, kind of. I don't want to gloat but yeah, I kind of do. I've been very lucky."

Alexis Tonti '11 Arts *is* CCT*'s managing editor.*

Passport to India

College students intern in Mumbai via Columbia Experience Overseas

By Shira Boss '93, '97J, '98 SIPA



Gathering at the Columbia Global Center in Mumbai were (left to right) Ben Harris '14, David Kang '15, Hannah Sotnick '15, Allison Kammert '15, Meghna Mukherjee '15, Srilekha Jayanthi (former CGC personnel), Anjali Chowfla (former CGC personnel), Doreen Mohammed '15 and Shrey Chandra '15.
PHOTO: COURTESY CCE

Hannah Sotnick '15 is interested in foreign languages and cultures and says she has always wanted to work abroad after graduation. Last year, as a sophomore, she started looking for a way to work or intern abroad for the upcoming summer. "I was having difficulty finding a way to do so that would allow me a source of income to pay for housing and so forth," she says. Then a career counselor told her about Columbia Experience Overseas (CEO), a Center for Career Education (CCE) program that sends students to foreign cities to live together and work in eight-week internships. Sotnick applied for a position in Mumbai, was interviewed by her would-be supervisor over Skype and was offered the job.

"I was extremely excited after learning more about the Marg Foundation — a nonprofit art publisher that promotes Indian art and culture — and the internship," Sotnick says. She was a marketing intern and shared a corporate apartment, provided by Columbia, with the seven other Columbia interns in Mumbai. With some others in the group, she extended her stay to travel for nine days in the northwest state of Rajasthan. She returned to the United States with valuable international work experience and says she has clarified her career vision: "The experience affirmed my interest in writing and publishing and working abroad as well as expanded my interest in working in a nonprofit."

Since 2007, CCE has been connecting with employers and alumni in international locations to secure summer internships for rising juniors and seniors. CCE's role includes internship development, arranging for housing and connecting with local alumni in cities including Amman, Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Shanghai, Singapore and, new in 2013, Mumbai and Bangalore. This year 64 students worked abroad through CEO.

"The CEO program was designed to provide students with accessible international internship opportunities that leverage Columbia's growing global presence," says Kavita Sharma, dean of CCE. "Employers are looking for candidates who are adaptable and can relate to people from all walks of life. Interning abroad contributes significantly not only to students' professional development but also to their personal and social development. They become cross-culturally savvy and aware, skills that they leverage when they return to campus and in their future professional lives."

The CEO program was extended to Bangalore and Mumbai as part of the U.S. Department of State's Passport to India initiative, which seeks to increase the number of American students going to India for study and work. President Barack Obama '83 has declared India a defining partner of the 21st century yet, as the State Department website notes, "The pool of Americans ready to manage the growing political, economic and cultural ties between the U.S. and India is small. This is in part due to limited opportunities for American students in India." In 2009–10, 2,690 Americans studied abroad in India, while 104,879 Indians studied in the U.S., according to the State Department. Citi provided start-up funding for the CEO Mumbai and Banglore program.



CEO intern Ben Harris '14 (far right) met with Secretary of State John Kerry and others at the India-U.S. Higher Education Dialogue in June in New Delhi.
PHOTO: COURTESY CCE

After CCE's outreach specialists develop relationships with employers that yield internship opportunities, students are recruited to the CEO internships through listings in the campus' online jobs database, LionSHARE, and through a marketing campaign that includes email, in-person information sessions and one-on-one counseling meetings. The information sessions help students understand the available opportunities and the realities of working abroad, and feature a panel of past CEO participants. "Students love to hear firsthand accounts from their peers," says Heather Perceval, CCE's associate dean for experiential education. "Knowing that their peers have navigated international internships and listening to their successes and challenges makes others feel that they, too, can take up a CEO internship."

Students apply directly to employers and are interviewed by telephone or Skype. CCE arranges and pays for housing for all interns, and covers visa and travel costs according to financial need. Before departure, CCE holds an all-day orientation that reviews health and safety, offers tips on having a successful internship and discusses cross-cultural communication skills. Breakout sessions are city specific.

Among the 11 students who interned in India through CEO this summer were one from GS, two from Engineering and eight from the College. The College students were all in Mumbai, including Doreen Mohammad '15 from Jamaica, Queens, who had never left the United States; Shrey Chandra '15, who was born in Mumbai and hadn't been back since his family emigrated when he was 8; and David Kang '15, a Korean-American who envisions someday running for Congress. "If the stipend were not available or housing not provided, I certainly would not have been able to have my experiences in India," says Kang, who interned at a law firm. "I'm infinitely grateful."

CCE arranges an on-site orientation and alumni event upon arrival in cities that have a Columbia Global Center — this year, that meant Amman, Beijing and Mumbai. "That was really helpful and made us all feel very welcomed and aware of the Columbia community in Mumbai," Sotnick says.

The interns also are connected with Columbia alumni living locally who serve as mentors. "All of the mentors were extremely helpful in pointing us to the right people and places in India," Kang says. "Moreover, Jill [Burya, associate director of experiential education] and the dean of CCE herself [Sharma] came to India to see how we were. At every moment, they did the hard work of providing chances for networking at least twice a month."

"I had a chance to meet some truly amazing people: one of India's biggest economic advisers, several alumni — from bank CEOs to restaurant pioneers — and the bosses of my fellow CEO interns as well," Chandra says.

Leeza Mangaldas '11 was a CEO intern in Hong Kong in 2010 and says that the alumni mentors there formed a community for all the interns "that exposed us to some of the best social, cultural and intellectual experiences the city had to offer." She stays in touch with several of them, and now that she lives in Mumbai and is exploring a career as an actress, she was inspired to become a CEO mentor herself. "I'm thrilled, as I had benefited greatly from the mentorship equation," Mangaldas says. "What a privilege to be able to carry it forward."

She says of her mentee, Mohammad, "She seemed to really make the most of her summer in India and to make a meaningful contribution to the organization she interned with. It was a pleasure being her mentor and I look forward to hearing what she does next."

Rahul Jain '08 never had an overseas experience as a student but credits the Columbia community in Mumbai with getting him settled in India, where he works in private equity, within two weeks of arrival. Part of his giving back was to mentor Sotnick this past summer, when he also connected with the other mentors and interns. He says of the latter, "I'm very impressed by their independence, their enthusiasm to absorb every part of work and tackle their internships, and their openness to India. They were fearless and took full advantage of exploring Mumbai and adapted easily to life. They also walked away with a fresh perspective of what it means to live and work in an emerging market — a first for many."

Upon their return to the U.S., students participate in a follow-up reflection session, run by CCE, where they discuss their expe-

Reflecting on CEO Mumbai

Allison Kammert '15 *majors in economics and political science. This past summer, through the Center for Career Education's Columbia Experience Overseas (CEO) program, she was a communications intern at Mumbai Mobile Creches, a nonprofit that provides daycare for children of migrant construction workers. While still in India, she took time out to write about her experience.*

I applied to CEO positions that interested me in several cities and ultimately accepted my position in Mumbai because I wanted to go somewhere very different. And it worked! Mumbai is really, really different, in a great way.

Everyone I talked to about India, from my future supervisors at MMC to my friends from India, kept telling me that Mumbai is a "city of contradictions." I didn't fully understand what they meant until my first days here.

There are the more obvious contradictions, like the fact that one of the most expensive malls in India is built approximately 50 ft. from the edge of Asia's biggest slum. But there are also the less apparent contradictions. For example, in an office setting here, people will rarely give a definitive no to a request you've made. They might avoid the request, or say maybe, or talk around the point they're trying to make until you finally realize you're being denied. Similarly, people can answer questions very indirectly here. You'll rarely get a succinct answer to a question you've asked, and it usually takes a while to get the information you really want.



Allison Kammert '15 (right) and Hannah Sotnick '15.
PHOTO: COURTESY ALLISON KAMMERT '15

These sort of subtler, indirect behaviors contrast sharply with the not-so-subtle ways people will push you out of the way if you're not getting onto the train fast enough, or the bright colors of saris or super-spicy foods.

Life here is completely different from life in the United States, from the food, clothing and weather to the way people drive, interact on the train and view life in general. When you live in the same place for a long time, you develop a strong sense of what you think "normal" is. Being here has made me realize that there is no normal, and that maybe I should more often question why I do things the way I do at home.

For example, when I first got here, Mumbai's inefficiencies drove me insane. When I'm in New York City and need to go to an event or meeting somewhere I've never been, I'll look up the address and use street signs and smartphone maps to find my way there. It's entirely possible to get to a location you've never been without talking to anyone about it.

Here, there are few visible street signs, and people navigate the city via well-known landmarks. In order to get somewhere you've never been, you need to ask at least six people on the street to point you in the right direction, and eventually you'll get there. As I've spent more time here, I've realized that while it can, in many ways, be easier to just put an address into your iPhone, I've loved navigating Mumbai and seeing how everyone here works almost like an 18-million-person team to get one another to where they're going.

Outside of work, the other interns and I have traveled to and explored various destinations in and around Mumbai. Outside of Mumbai, people in our group have traveled to New Delhi, Goa and Agra, and people will be traveling after their internships end as well. Within the city, we've visited the Gateway of India, Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Elephanta Island, the *Dhobi Ghat* and many other places. Socially, we've met a lot of young ex-pats and people originally from India through co-workers and some of the younger mentors to whom we've been assigned.

We've met a number of truly amazing Columbians through this alumni mentor program. All the CEO mentors live in Mumbai; our group consists of the owner of several world-famous restaurants, several high-level business executives, a Bollywood actress, a research studio owner and many others who have gone far, far out of their way to welcome us to Mumbai and to make our stay here as enriching as possible.

Networking this summer has benefited us in ways far beyond just meeting potential business connections — we've made great friends with and through these alums, picked up advice that made life in Mumbai so much easier and met people with extraordinary life experiences that have been inspiring to hear about. Meeting our group of mentors made me realize how willing to help a fellow Columbian so many alums are, which has definitely motivated me to find other ways to engage with the alumni network upon graduation and even before that.

riences and how they will be useful in the future. They also submit a project in the format of their choosing — such as a journal, photo essay or blog — presenting their experience.

Meghna Mukherjee '15, who is from India but grew up in the Middle East and Singapore, applied to several internships in the U.S. as well as to CEO internships in India, Jordan and Hong Kong but chose Mumbai. "This was the first time I'd been to India without the comfort of my family and my own house," she says. "It's really the simple things that took getting used to, like the work environments, figuring out my own meals and getting around by myself on public transportation, not to mention being extremely careful about food and water." Mukherjee says that the Columbia Global Center support network, her fellow interns and her mentor were all instrumental in getting her settled. She had never been to Mumbai before her internship at Apne Aap Women's Collective (AAWC), a nonprofit that works with women and children of the red light district, and had never had to use her Hindi. Inspired by her internship experience, Mukherjee says she's now considering learning how to read and write Hindi.

Mohammed looked at all the CEO cities for any internship in human rights or public health before choosing to work at AAWC as a marketing intern. "This was my first time outside of the U.S. and it was quite a transformative, as well as eye-opening, experience," says Mohammed, who speaks Bengali and has a working knowledge of Hindi. "Living through and experiencing the injustices, inequalities and realities that I grew up hearing about, reading about and learning about, in India and across the globe, only continues to put things in perspective for me. Not a day goes by without my realizing my privilege and what it means to be an American."

Kang says his internship at the law firm was "a crash course in econ, Indian law, corporate networking and market analysis — all



Sightseeing at the Taj Mahal and Gateway of India (left to right) were Meghna Mukherjee '15, David Kang '15 and Doreen Mohammed '15.
PHOTO: LEFT, COURTESY DAVID KANG '15; RIGHT, COURTESY MEGHNA MUKHERJEE '15

at the same time," and says that after working in Mumbai and observing the local work ethic, he understands why India is poised for rapid growth. "The hunger and the desire that I saw every day at the office is something I'll always remember," he says.

Ben Harris '14 was a fundraising intern for Mumbai Mobile Creches, a nonprofit that runs daycare centers for children of migrant construction workers who live on the construction sites (a common practice in India). "The staff was incredible," he says. "From day one, they treated us like co-workers instead of foreign interns." He adds that meeting Columbia alumni living in Mumbai showed him a possible new path: "It hadn't really occurred to me that picking up and moving to India after graduation is a real option."

Harris also was one of three CEO Mumbai interns selected to go to New Delhi at the end of June to attend a U.S.-India higher education summit, where Secretary of State John Kerry was a keynote speaker. Harris, along with Kang and Mohammed, met three interns from Honeywell, who subsequently visited the Columbia enclave in Mumbai. Kang and Mohammed reciprocated with a return trip to New Delhi, where they were shown the Taj Mahal and introduced to local restaurants.

Experiencing the local culture and sampling its cuisine is a mainstay of the CEO experience. Living together gives the interns a community and support network from which to navigate the foreign city, and they typically eat out and sightsee together as well as attend Columbia-organized events.

The Mumbai interns commuted by train, which several noted was a harrowing experience, with cars overflowing with people jostling for scarce space. Mukherjee notes that everything in Mumbai was unpredictable, including the weather, the people and the animals. About the last she says, "Cows, bulls, oxen, goats, dogs, cats, chickens, ducks … it's like a little farmyard on the streets. They get in your way, stop traffic and wander around on pedestrian streets and congested roads — and no one seems to mind."

Sotnick noted in her blog that local women's habits of wearing Western dress does not extend to shoes, hair or makeup: "It's refreshing to go to work without worrying about makeup or frizzy hair, and wearing harem pants that would be considered pajamas in the U.S.," she wrote.

Another entry describes being at a restaurant and ordering *Dahi Pakoda Chaat*, following Mohammed's observation that the dishes with the longest names usually turned out to be the best. "When I ordered, the waiter, who spoke very little English and didn't even know the word water, whipped this phrase out of his back pocket unexpectedly: 'It's *very* spicy. Order another dish!'" Nonetheless, Sotnick wrote in the blog, "I didn't, though … and I was fine!"

Kang describes walking through "the slums of Santacruz that are right beside the five-star accommodations Columbia has provided for me" and every day walking past a family using a tarp hung next to a wall as a home. "The poverty is jarring, and the skyscrapers built next to it even more so," he says. "It has definitely been an eye-opening experience."

All of the interns return from overseas enriched by their experiences, and many cite new career goals, including returning to the countries they worked in, which in the case of the Passport to India program is a main objective. "That's not something I considered before this," Mukherjee says. "Even being Indian, I had no idea what this country had to offer. If I were to come back here after graduation to work, it would be to Bombay, which I only figured out after living and working here through the CEO Mumbai program."

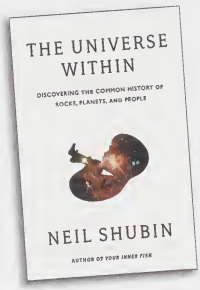
Shira Boss '93, '97J, '98 SIPA *is contributing writer for* CCT. *Her most recent feature, in the Summer 2013 issue, was about the Columbia College Alumni-Sponsored Student Internship Program.*

The Universe Within

Neil Shubin '82 explores the common history of rocks, planets and people



PHOTO: ©JOHN WEINSTEIN/THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY



Neil Shubin '82 is the Robert R. Bensley Professor, organismal biology and anatomy, and associate dean for academic strategy at the University of Chicago. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 2011.

A distinguished paleontologist, Shubin has developed expeditionary research programs in realms as far afield as Asia, Africa and Greenland. In his first book, the best-selling Your Inner Fish: A Journey into the 3.5-Billion-Year History of the Human Body *[see cover story, March/April 2011], he traced the links between human anatomy and that of the fish that first came onto land hundreds of millions of years ago. His latest volume,* The Universe Within: Discovering the Common History of Rocks, Planets, and People, *provides an even broader map of our vast existence. Shubin, as* The Wall Street Journal *points out, "tracks the very atoms in our bodies back to the Big Bang … What is special about the book is its sweep, its scope, its panorama."*

In the following excerpt from The Universe Within, *Shubin describes the high drama of a scientific expedition in the frozen ridges of Greenland.*

Rose Kernochan '82 Barnard

Journeying to Greenland to prospect for fossils were (clockwise from top left) Professor Farish A. Jenkins Jr., professor of biology and zoology at Harvard and curator of vertebrate paleontology at the university's Museum of Comparative Zoology (Jenkins died in November 2012); laboratory colleagues Chuck Schaff and Bill Amaral; and Shubin.
PHOTOS: COURTESY BILL AMARAL; BACKGROUND PHOTO: KORHAN OZKAN









Viewed from the sky, my companion and I must have looked like two black specks perched high on a vast plain of rock, snow, and ice. It was the end of a long trek, and we were slogging our way back to camp on a ridge sandwiched between two of the greatest ice sheets on the planet. The clear northern sky opened a panorama that swept from the pack ice of the Arctic Ocean in the east to the seemingly boundless Greenland ice cap to our west. After a productive day prospecting for fossils and an exhilarating hike, and with the majestic vista around us, we felt as if we were walking on top of the world.

Our reverie was abruptly cut short by a change in the rocks beneath our feet. As we traversed the bedrock, brown sandstones gave way to ledges of pink limestone that, from our earlier discoveries, became an auspicious sign that fossils were in the neighborhood. After we spent a few minutes peering at boulders, alarm bells went off; my attention was pulled to an unusual glimmer flashing from a corner of a melon-sized rock. Experience in the field taught me to respect the sensation triggered by these moments. We had traveled to Greenland to hunt for small fossils, so I hunched over my magnifying lens to scan the rock closely. The sparkle that arrested me sprang from a little white spot, no bigger than a sesame seed. I spent the better part of five minutes curled up with the rock close to my eyes before passing it to my colleague Farish for his expert opinion.

Concentrating attention on the fleck with his lens, Farish froze solid. His eyes shot back to me with a look of pent-up emotion, disbelief, and surprise. Rising from his crouch, he took off his gloves and launched them about twenty feet in the air. Then he nearly crushed me with one of the most titanic bear hugs I have ever received.

Farish's exuberance made me forget the near absurdity of feeling excitement at finding a tooth not much bigger than a grain of sand. We found what we had spent three years, countless dollars, and many sprained ligaments looking for: a 200-million-year-old link between reptiles and mammals. But this project was no miniature trophy hunt. The little tooth represents one of our own links to worlds long gone. Hidden inside these Greenlandic rocks lie our deep ties to the forces that shaped our bodies, the planet, even the entire universe.

Seeing our connections to the natural world is like detecting the pattern hidden inside an optical illusion. We encounter bodies, rocks, and stars every day of our lives. Train the eye, and these familiar entities give way to deeper realities. When you learn to view the world through this lens, bodies and stars become windows to a past that was vast almost beyond comprehension, occasionally catastrophic, and always shared among living things and the universe that fostered them.

How does such a big world lie inside this tiny tooth, let alone inside our bodies? The story starts with how we ended up on that frozen Greenlandic ridge in the first place.

Imagine arriving at a vista that extends as far as the eye can see, knowing you are looking inside it for a fossil the size of the period that ends this sentence. If fossil bones can be small, so too are whole vistas relative to the surface area of Earth. Knowing how to find past life means learning to see rocks not as static objects but as entities with a dynamic and often violent history. It also means understanding that our bodies, as well as our entire world, represent just moments in time.

The playbook that fossil hunters use to develop new places to look has been pretty much unchanged for the past 150 years. Intellectually, it is as simple as it gets: find places on the planet that have rocks of the right age to answer whatever question interests you, rocks of the type likely to hold fossils, and rocks exposed on the surface. The less you have to dig, the better. This approach, which I described in *Your Inner Fish*, led me and my colleagues, in 2004, to find a fish at the cusp of the transition to life on land.

As a student in the early 1980s, I gravitated to a team that had developed tools to make headway finding new places to hunt fossils. Their goal was to uncover the earliest relatives of mammals in the fossil record. The group had found small shrewlike fossils and their reptilian cousins in a number of places in the American West, but by the mid-1980s their success had brought them to an impasse. The problem is best captured by the jest, "Each newly discovered missing link creates two new gaps in the fossil record." They had done their share of creating gaps and were now left with one in rocks about 200 million years old.

The search for fossil sites is aided by economics and politics. With the potential for significant oil, gas, and mineral discoveries, there are incentives for countries to catalog and map the geology exposed inside their borders. Consequently, virtually any geological library holds journal articles, reports, and, one hopes, maps detailing the age, structure, and mineral content of the rocks exposed on the surface of different regions. The challenge is to find the right maps.

Professor Farish A. Jenkins Jr. led the team at Harvard's Museum of Comparative Zoology. Fossil discovery was the coin of the realm for him and his crew, and it started in the library. Farish's laboratory colleagues Chuck Schaff and Bill Amaral were key in this effort; they had honed their understanding of geology to predict likely places to make discoveries, and, importantly, they trained their eyes to find really small fossils. Their relationship often took the form of a long, friendly argument: one would propose a new idea while the other would relentlessly try to quash it. If the idea held up under their largely amiable tit for tat, then they would both line up behind the proposal and take it to Farish, with his keen logistic and scientific sense, for vetting.

One day in 1986, while chewing the fat with Chuck, Bill found a copy of the *Shell Oil Guide to the Permian and Triassic of the World* on Chuck's desk. Paging through the volume, Bill spotted a map of Greenland, with a little hatched area of Triassic rocks on the eastern coast at a latitude of about 72 degrees north, roughly that of the northernmost tip of Alaska. Bill kicked things off by proclaiming that this could be a prime next area to work. The usual argument ensued, with Chuck denying that the rocks were the right type, Bill responding, and Chuck countering.

By dumb luck, Chuck had the means to end the debate right on his bookshelf. A few weeks earlier, he was trolling through the library discards and pulled out a paper titled "Revision of Triassic Stratigraphy of the Scoresby Land and Jameson Land Region, East Greenland," authored by a team of Danish geologists in the 1970s. Little did anyone know at the time, but this freebie, saved from the trash heap, was to loom large in our lives for the next ten years. Virtually from the minute Bill and Chuck looked at the maps in the reprint, the debate was over.

My graduate student office was down the hall, and as was typical for that time in the late afternoon, I swung by Chuck's office to see what was what. Bill was hovering about, and it was clear that some residue from one of their debates remained in the air. Bill didn't say much; he just slapped Chuck's geological reprint down in front of me. In it was a map that showed exactly what we had hoped for. Exposed on the eastern coast of Greenland, across


SVALBARD
CANADA
Qaanaaq
Pituffik
GREENLAND
NATIONAL PARK
Upernavik
Qaarsut
Uummannaq
Nerlerit Inaat
Ittoqqortoormiit
Qeqertarsuaq
Aasiaat
Ilulissat
Qasigiannguit
Kangaatsiaq
Sisimiut
Kangerlussuaq
Arctic Circle
Maniitsoq
Kulusuk
Tasiilaq
ICELAND
Reykjavik
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The search for fossils, such as this fish gathered from a muddy area near the southwestern coast of Greenland in the 1980s, has taken Shubin to remote locations around the world.
PHOTO: KEITH DOTSON

the ocean from Iceland, were the perfect kinds of rocks in which to find early mammals, dinosaurs, and other scientific goodies.

The maps looked exotic, even ominous. The east coast of Greenland is remote and mountainous. And the names evoke explorers of the past: Jameson Land, Scoresby Land, and Wegener Halvø. It didn't help matters that I knew that a number of explorers had perished during their trips there.

Fortunately, the expeditions that transpired ultimately rested on Farish's, Bill's, and Chuck's shoulders. With about sixty years of fieldwork between them, they had developed a deep reservoir of hard-earned knowledge about working in different kinds of field conditions. Of course, few experiences could have prepared us for this one. As a famed expedition leader once told me, "There is nothing like your first trip to the Arctic."

I learned plenty of lessons that first year in Greenland, ones that were to become useful when I began running my own Arctic expeditions eleven years later. By bringing leaky leather boots, a small used tent, and a huge flashlight to the land of mud, ice, and the midnight sun, I made so many bad choices that first year that I remained smiling only by reciting my own motto, "Never do anything for the first time."

The most nerve-racking moment of that inaugural trip came when selecting the initial base camp, a decision made in a fleeting moment while flying in a helicopter. As the rotors turn, money flies out the window, because the costs of Arctic helicopters can be as high as three thousand dollars per hour. On a paleontology budget, geared more to beat-up pickups than to Bell 212 Twin Hueys, that means wasting no time. Once over a promising site revealed by the maps back in the laboratory, we rapidly check off a number of important properties before setting down. We need to find a patch of ground that is dry and flat yet still close to water for our daily camp needs, far enough inland so that polar bears aren't a problem, shielded from the wind, and near exposures of rock to study.

We had a good idea of the general area from the maps and aerial photographs, and ended up setting down on a beautiful little patch of tundra in the middle of a wide valley. There were creeks from which we could draw water. The place was flat and dry, so we could pitch our tents securely. It even had a gorgeous view of a snowy mountain range and glacier on the eastern end of the valley. But we would soon discover a major shortcoming. There were no decent rocks within easy walking distance.

Once camp was established to our satisfaction, we set off each day with one goal in mind: to find the rocks. We'd climb the highest elevations near camp and scan the distance with binoculars for any of the exposures that figured so prominently in the paper Bill and Chuck had found. Our search was eased by the fact that the rock layers were collectively known as red beds for their characteristic hue.

With red rock on our minds, we went off in teams, Chuck and Farish climbing hills to give them views of the southern rocks, Bill and I setting off for places that would reveal those to the north. Three days into the hunt, both teams returned with the same news. Out in the distance, about six miles away to the northeast, was a sliver of red. We'd argue about this little outcrop of rock, scoping it with our binoculars at every opportunity for the remainder of the week. Some days, when the light was right, it seemed to be a series of ridges ideal for fossil work.

It was decided that Bill and I would scout a trail to get to the rocks. Since I didn't know how to walk in the Arctic, and had made an unfortunate boot selection, the trek turned out to be an ordeal — first through boulder fields, then across small glaciers, and pretty much through mud for the rest of the way. The mud formed from wet clay that made an indelicate *glurp* as we extricated our feet from each step. No footprint remained, only a jiggling viscous mass.

In three days of testing routes, we plotted a viable course to the promising rocks. After a four-hour hike, the red sliver in our binocular view from camp turned out to be a series of cliffs, ridges, and hillocks of the exact kind of rock we needed. With any luck, bones would be weathering out of the rock's surface.

The goal now became to return with Farish and Chuck, doing the hike as fast as possible to leave enough time to hunt for bones before having to turn back home. Arriving with the whole crew, Bill and I felt like proud homeowners showing off our property. Farish and Chuck, tired from the hike but excited about the prospect of finding fossils, were in no mood to chat. They swiftly got into the paleontological rhythm of walking the rocks at a slow pace, eyes on the ground, methodically scanning for bone at the surface.

Bill and I set off for a ridge about half a mile away that would give us a view of what awaited us even farther north. After a small break, Bill started to scan the landscape for anything of interest: our colleagues, polar bears, other wildlife. He stopped scanning and said, "Chuck's down." Training my binoculars on his object, I could see Chuck was indeed on his hands and knees methodically crawling on the rock. To a paleontologist this meant one thing: Chuck was picking up fossil bones.

Our short amble to Chuck confirmed the promise of the binocu-

lar scan; he had indeed found a small piece of bone. But our hike to this little spot had taken four hours, and we now had to head back. We set off, with Farish, Bill, Chuck, and me in a line about thirty feet apart. After about a quarter of a mile something on the ground caught my eye. It had a sheen that I'd seen before. Dropping to my knees like Chuck an hour earlier, I saw it in its full glory, a hunk of bone the size of my fist. To the left was more bone, to the right even more. I called to Farish, Bill, and Chuck. No response. Looking up, I knew why. They were also on their hands and knees. We were all crawling in the same colossal field of broken bones.

At summer's end, we returned boxes of these fossil bones to the lab, where Bill put them together like a three-dimensional jigsaw puzzle. The creature was about twenty feet long, with a series of flat leaf-shaped teeth, a long neck, and a small head. The beast had the diagnostic limb anatomy of a dinosaur, albeit a relatively small one.

This kind of dinosaur, known as a prosauropod, holds an important place in North American paleontology. Dinosaurs in eastern North America were originally discovered along streams, railroad lines, and roads, the only places with decent exposures of rocks. The eminent Yale paleontologist Richard Swann Lull (1867–1957) found a prosauropod in a rock quarry in Manchester, Connecticut. The only problem was that it was the back end. The block containing the front end, he was chagrined to learn, had earlier been incorporated into the abutment of a bridge in the town of South Manchester. Undeterred, Lull described the dinosaur from its rear end only. When the bridge was demolished in 1969, the other fragments came to light. Who knows what fossil dinosaurs remain to be discovered deep inside Manhattan? The island's famous brownstone town houses are made of this same kind of sandstone.

The hills in Greenland form large staircases of rock that not only break boots but also tell the story of the stones' origins. Hard layers of sandstones, almost as resistant as concrete, poke out from softer ones that weather away more quickly. Virtually identical staircases lie farther south; matching sandstones, siltstones, and shales extend from North Carolina to Connecticut all the way to Greenland. These layers have a distinctive signature of faults and sediment. They speak of places where lakes sat inside steep valleys that formed as the earth fractured apart. The pattern of ancient faults, volcanoes, and lake beds in these rocks is almost identical to the great rift lakes in Africa today — Lake Victoria and Lake Malawi — where movements inside Earth cause the surface to split and separate, leaving a gaping basin filled by the water of lakes and streams. In the past, rifts like these extended all the way up the coast of North America.

From the beginning, our whole plan was to follow the trail of the rifts. Knowing that the rocks in eastern North America contained dinosaurs and small mammal-like creatures gave us the aha moment with Chuck's geological reprint. That, in turn, led us north to Greenland. Then, once in Greenland, we pursued the discoveries on the ground like pigeons following a trail of bread crumbs. It took three years, but clues in the red beds ultimately led us to that frozen ridge I trekked with Farish.

From the top of the ridge, the tents of camp looked like tiny white dots just below the horizon. The crest was windswept, but the bluff of pink limestone on which we were seated formed a quiet shield for Farish and me to assess the discovery. Farish's jubilation confirmed my hunch that the white spot in the rock was indeed a mammal tooth. With the characteristic pattern of three cusps and two roots, it was a dead ringer for one of these beasts.

Armed with confidence that came from this first discovery, the team looked widely across east Greenland, eventually finding better mammal fossils in subsequent years. The fossils came from a small shrewlike animal about half the size of a house mouse. Although it lacks the sort of awe-inspiring skeleton that would grace a museum rotunda, its beauty lies elsewhere.

This is one of the first creatures in the fossil record with our kind of teeth: those with cutting surfaces defined by cusps that occlude on upper and lower teeth with a tooth row subdivided into incisors, canines, and molars. It has an ear that is like ours also, containing little bones that connect the eardrum to the inner ear. Its skull pattern, shoulder, and limb are also decidedly mammalian. We don't know for sure, but it likely had hair and other mammalian features such as milk-producing glands. Every time we chew, hear high pitches, or rotate our hands, we use parts of our anatomy that can be traced through primates and other mammals to the structures in these little creatures from 200 million years ago.

Who knows what fossil dinosaurs remain to be discovered deep inside Manhattan? The island's famous brownstone town houses are made of this same kind of sandstone.

The rocks also tie us to the past; rifts in Earth, like those that led us to find fossil mammals in Greenland, have left their traces in our bodies as much as they have in the crust of the planet. The Greenlandic rocks are like one page in a vast library of volumes that contain the story of our world. Billions of years of history preceded that little tooth, and 200 million years have followed it. Through eons on Earth, seas have opened and closed, mountains have risen and eroded, and asteroids have come crashing down as the planet has coursed its way through the solar system. The layers of rock record era after era of changes to the climate, atmosphere, and crust of the planet itself. Transformation is the order of the day for the world: bodies grow and die, species emerge and go extinct, while every feature of our planetary and celestial home undergoes gradual change or episodes of catastrophic revolution.

Rocks and bodies are kinds of time capsules that carry the signature of great events that shaped them. The molecules that compose our bodies arose in stellar events in the distant origin of the solar system. Changes to Earth's atmosphere sculpted our cells and entire metabolic machinery. Pulses of mountain building, changes in orbits of the planet, and revolutions within Earth itself have had an impact on our bodies, minds, and the way we perceive the world around us.

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Freshmen line up in 1955, their heads adorned by the infamous freshman beanie.

PHOTO: COURTESY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

MESSAGE FROM CCAA PRESIDENT KYRA TIRANA BARRY '87

Fund Volunteers Link Alumni to the College

At the Columbia College Alumni Association Board, we've spent the better part of the last year examining alumni engagement and building connections between students and alumni. We're thrilled with the progress we've made, yet it wouldn't have been possible without another part of the CCAA's mandate — our leadership of the Columbia College Fund. Together, these complementary roles contribute to students' experiences and Columbia's ability to achieve excellence.



Kyra Tirana Barry '87
PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

The College Fund's extraordinary growth during the past 15 years has paralleled all external markers of the College's ascent. This year was no exception. Thanks to several hundred alumni fund volunteers — including Class Agents, members of the Fund Development Council, Reunion Committees and young alumni committees — we are able to report remarkable results this year:

- More than 11,000 College alumni (including the Class of 2013) made a financial gift to the College.
- The College won the Trustee Challenge on Columbia Giving Day 2012, held last October, when alumni across the University showed their support for their school by giving on one day. This year it will be held on Wednesday, October 23.
- The College earned the full matching gift in the University's April fundraising drive, A Million Reasons to Give.
- After years of surpassing all participation levels for Senior Fund participation among its Ivy League peers, the Class of 2013 Senior Fund broke records for commitments to Dean James J. Valentini's 3-2-1 Challenge: Make a gift for three years, ask two friends to join in and have your gift matched 1:1 by an alumnus/a.

While the dollar figures are important, just as central is the fund's role in connecting alumni to the College and to students. Speak with fund volunteers and you realize that their passion for Columbia, for their classmates and the College's students drives their involvement. Each contact with an alumnus/a is an opportunity to renew Columbia connections or make new ones. Most importantly, it's an opportunity to find ways to better students' experiences in the same way that alumni before us enriched ours.

Fund volunteers provide a critical link between the College and its alumni. They stay up to date on what is happening on campus and with students and frequently return to Morningside Heights for special events. Their feedback helps the CCAA shape its agenda and advise the dean on College priorities. Fund volunteers are a diverse group of alumni who have given back to Columbia in a variety of ways. Here are but a few examples:

Zila Acosta '11 provides a unique perspective as a recent graduate. She sees the College's dedication to its students and the difference every dollar can make in enhancing the Columbia experience.

Former CCAA board member **Don Margolis '63, '65 Business** always has been passionate about financial aid, giving as generously as he could. Until five years ago he was not involved in asking for money but for his recent 50th reunion he pursued first gifts from classmates. Not only did he reconnect with his fencing teammates and peers, bringing some back to campus, but by reaching out he also helped classmates reconnect to alma mater.

Chuck Callan '78 hosted a pre-reunion party, bringing together classmates and building excitement for reunion, and he also re-engaged with his fraternity, ZBT. He says he has had more contact with Columbia and Columbians in the last five years than in the previous 30 years since graduation.

Gerald Sherwin '55 has connected more students and alumni through volunteering at Columbia than anyone, which is why Columbia College Young Alumni created an award in his honor. The Gerald Sherwin '55 Young Alumni Service Award is bestowed upon an individual who has demonstrated exceptional service and has enhanced the community, well-being or engagement of the College's young alumni. The inaugural awardees are:

Nathania Nisonson '03: A champion of the fund, Nat is a consistent leadership donor, a Class Agent and a CCAA board member, and she has been co-chair of the Young Alumni Fund Spring Benefit since its inception seven years ago. She also was a member of her 10th Reunion Committee.

Michael Novielli '03: Known as the "grandfather" of CCYA, Novi is credited with reenergizing the group 10 years ago. His classmates call him "Mr. Columbia." He is an Alumni Representative Committee member, a Class Agent, a *CCT* class correspondent and a CAA board member; and he was a member of his 10th Reunion Committee.

The next time an alumnus/a reaches out to you, turn the tables. Ask why he or she makes calls on behalf of the College. Ask what's happening on campus and how you can make a difference for a student. Whether it's joining ARC, making calls for the fund, mentoring a student or providing an internship, *you* can make a difference. Consider joining the team; this is Our Columbia. Together as alumni, *we* make the difference.

Kyra

CCAA Columbia College Fund Leaders

Michael Behringer '89
Ira Malin '75
CO-CHAIRS
Columbia College Fund

James Gerkis '80, '83L
Ted Schweitzer '91, '94L
CO-CHAIRS
Fund Development Council

Francis Phillip '90
Dan Tamkin '81
CO-CHAIRS
Class Agent Program

Randy Berkowitz '04
Julia Feldberg '10
CO-CHAIRS
Young Alumni Fund Advisory Board

Bookshelf

The Great Civilized Conversation: Education for a World Community by *Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, the John Mitchell Mason Professor Emeritus and Provost Emeritus.* De Bary advocates for incorporating classics from both Eastern and Western traditions into modern core curricula, bringing the philosophies and moral values of Asian civilizations to American students and vice versa (Columbia University Press, $35).

Arthur H. Westing: Pioneer on the Environmental Impact of War by *Arthur H. Westing '50.* This collection addresses the environmental consequences of warfare in Vietnam and Kuwait, the environmental impact of nuclear war and more (Springer, $49.95).

Holding the Center: In Defense of Political Trimmings by *Eugene Goodheart '53.* Goodheart argues that non-parliamentary democracy requires compromise and humility to address crisis in a time of divided government (Transaction Publishers, $44.95).

Heart of Wisdom by Alan N. Clifford, pen name of Dr. *Peter F. Cohn '58.* The author illustrates the conflicts and moral complexities of medical research in this novel about a cardiologist and the professor he meets through a prestigious fellowship (Lion Publishers, $8.95).

To Sing Away the Darkest Days: Poems Re-imagined from Yiddish Folksongs by *Norbert Hirschhorn '58.* This collection, a poetic account of Jewish life in the Diaspora, is the culmination of a five-year project in which Hirschhorn drew on more than 1,000 Yiddish songs (Holland Park Press, $14).

The Little Champ: A Different Kind of Novel by *Arthur M. Louis '59.* Immigrant boxer Abe Washington seeks redemption for his role in fixing the 1919 World Series. Recounting his life as he is close to death, he provides a rough picture of Jazz Age America and early 20th-century prizefighting (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, $16.95).

What's Going on at UAardvark? *By Lawrence S. Wittner '62.* A university becomes the site of rebellion in Wittner's satiric novel addressing the corporate takeover of higher education in contemporary America (Solidarity Press, $14.95).

The Race for What's Left: The Global Scramble for the World's Last Resources by *Michael T. Klare '63.* As resource extraction methods become more complex and dangerous, Klare warns of the disputes and environmental risks made inevitable by the rush to secure oil, gas and other resources (Picador, $17).

Of Time and Place by B.R. Freemont, pen name of *Ben Freiberger '64.* Set during the 21st-century global energy crisis, the novel follows the career and love life of James Lendeman, whose experiences call into question the future of maintaining a viable U.S. economy (Two Harbors Press, $16.95).

Growth and Turbulence in the Container/Contained: Bion's Continuing Legacy edited by *Howard B. Levine '64* and *Lawrence J. Brown.* This book surveys current trends in Bionian psychoanalytic scholarship, covering topics from the historical/biographical to the clinical, theoretical, cultural and more (Routledge, $49.95).

Thomas Hauser on Sports: Remembering the Journey by *Thomas Hauser '67.* The author, best known as a boxing journalist, brings together an array of his articles on other sports. Subjects include tennis pioneer Arthur Ashe, the NFL overtime rule, the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show and more (University of Arkansas Press, $24.95).

The Holocaust, the Church, and the Law of Unintended Consequences: How Christian Anti-Judaism Spawned Nazi Anti-Semitism by *Anthony Sciolino '67.* Sciolino holds the Catholic Church accountable for bigotry and authoritarianism, highlighting its marginalization of Jews as the precursor to the Holocaust (iUniverse, $20.95).

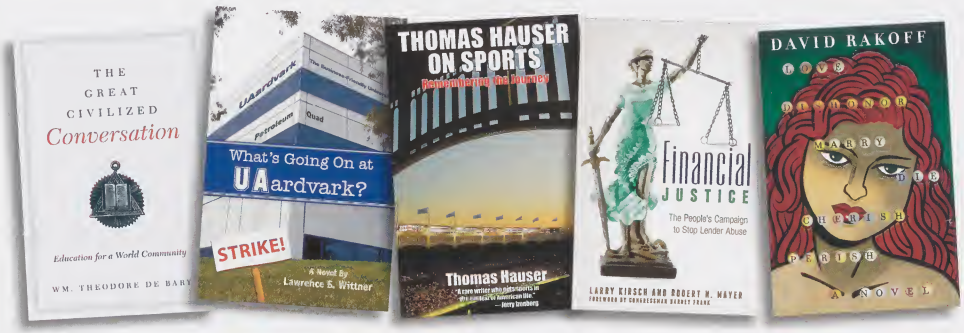
CEO Psychology: Who Rises, Who Falls and Why by Dr. *Kenneth M. Settel '67* with *Joseph Cardillo.* This book offers guidance to leaders who need help navigating a course to success through the uncertainty and challenges of the business world (RosettaBooks, e-book $5.99).

100 Years of Soccer in America: The Official Book of the US Soccer Federation edited by *Neil Buethe, Jim Trecker '67* and *Jacob Lehman,* with an introduction by *Sunil Gulati,* senior lecturer in economics and president of the U.S. Soccer Federation. Illustrated with striking photography, this official USSF publication is a centennial history of soccer in the United States (Rizzoli/Universe, $45).

Endless Empire: Spain's Retreat, Europe's Eclipse, America's Decline edited by *Alfred W. McCoy '68, Josep M. Fradera and Stephan Jacobson.* These essays discuss the history of empire that has dominated the globe for the past four millennia (University of Wisconsin Press, $29.95).

The Persistent Observer's Guide to Wine: How to Enjoy the Best and Skip the Rest by J.P. Bary, pen name of *Paul de Bary '68.* Informed by extensive interviews with wine consumers of all levels, de Bary uses his vast knowledge of wine to write this comprehensive guide (Neon Press, $19.99).

After Tocqueville: The Promise and Failure of Democracy by *Chilton Williamson Jr. '69.* Challenging the assertion that democracy



Behind the Farrar Straus & Giroux Imprint

By Justin DeFreitas

Boris Kachka '97, '98J touched a nerve when "The End," his *New York* magazine story about the state of the publishing industry, hit the stands in September 2008. It was a time of great financial uncertainty. Banks were crashing, unemployment was rising, the foreclosure crisis was in full force — and the publishing world didn't look much better. With independent publishing houses and retail bookshops flirting with extinction and e-books and online retailing upending the traditional business model, pessimism was rampant.

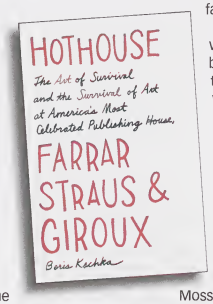


PHOTO: MIA TRAN '97

The story received a lot of attention, and to Kachka's eye it was a topic worthy of further consideration. Now, five years later, his first book, *Hothouse: The Art of Survival and the Survival of Art at America's Most Celebrated Publishing House, Farrar Straus & Giroux* (Simon & Schuster, $27), takes a deeper look at the industry by focusing on one of the country's greatest and most idiosyncratic purveyors of the written word.

The book traces Farrar Straus & Giroux (FSG) from its founding by John Farrar and Roger Straus Jr. in 1946 and provides compelling portraits of the people who made it an inimitable success. Together, publisher Straus and editor Robert Giroux '36 set the standard for literary publishers, bucking the trends set by increasingly corporate houses by publishing, in Kachka's words, "what they loved, and little else." In the process they helped define post-WWII literary and intellectual America with a roster that included T.S. Eliot, Flannery O'Connor, Joan Didion, Philip Roth and Tom Wolfe.

Kachka's original *New York* article was spurred in part by Wolfe's decision, earlier that year, to leave FSG after four decades for Little, Brown and Co. — and a $7 million advance. "It seemed to signal the end for FSG's kind of publishing," says Kachka. Coupled with the death of Giroux that same September (Straus died in 2004), the time seemed ripe to take stock.



Kachka's friend Lorin Stein, editor of *The Paris Review*, helped him get started by pointing him toward the FSG archives at the New York Public Library. "He didn't know where the bodies were buried," Kachka says, "but he knew there were bodies." FSG's current president and publisher, Jonathan Galassi, put him in touch with the Straus family, notably Roger Straus Jr.'s son, Roger III '67, the onetime heir apparent whose working relationship with his father was often strained. The younger Straus, in addition to agreeing to be interviewed, gave Kachka access to his father's unpublished reminiscences, held in the Columbia Center for Oral History. "There was plenty of untouched material," says Kachka.

Though a behind-the-scenes tale of a literary publishing house ran the risk of drawing a small readership, Kachka believed the story amounted to more than literary shop talk. "It's a family story, about generations and about how mores change, and it's a family business story. And it's a story about the rise of corporate culture, and about how you make culture, as opposed to commerce."

The book centers on Straus and Giroux, whose differing skills, methods and temperaments served the publishing house well yet made for a sometimes precarious balance. Straus was larger than life, a wealthy and gregarious man-about-town in a Mercedes convertible, his ascot trailing in the wind. He was charismatic, brash, arrogant and profane, yet he radiated warmth and earned his writers' trust by demonstrating the courage of his convictions; he was more than willing to lose money for the honor of publishing great literature. Not that he read much of it. Straus flattered and coddled authors, but he read quickly and selectively in order to get a feel for a manuscript: I didn't read your book, he'd say, "I read *in* it."

Giroux, too, inspired faith in his writers — several named him executor of their estates — and he did more than his part to care for them, stroking their egos and acting as confidante, adviser and nursemaid. And though some said Giroux's own ego was just as formidable as Straus', his demeanor, personality and talents couldn't have been more different. At his funeral, friends eulogized him for his humility, "for his turkey-sandwich-and-Jell-O lunches at his desk" and for "a dearth of personal photos that could be used at the service." He was studious and erudite (he was mentored at the College by Mark Van Doren '21 GSAS), a thorough and sensitive editor who immersed himself in his authors' manuscripts. Occasionally, though, he was troubled by the notion that the old adage was true: that every editor was a failed writer.

Both men had lives outside the office — Straus was married and Giroux had a longtime partner — but neither maintained a clear boundary between the personal and the professional. They socialized with authors, vacationed with them and spent much of their personal time nurturing them and bailing them out of jams. They lived and breathed FSG, and for Kachka this was part of the appeal of the story. Essentially it's a portrait of "people who are at their best while working," he says.

It was fitting that Kachka should be the one to write this book, and not simply by virtue of the Columbia connection. His first job was as a fact checker at *New York*, and soon he took over the magazine's culture listings. Then, in 2004, Adam Moss came in as editor-in-chief and expanded the culture coverage, giving Kachka a shot at writing. He's now been writing about literature, publishing and theatre for the magazine for about a decade.

Kachka spent five years researching and writing *Hothouse* in his spare time — "a marathon," he says, compared with magazine writing. But his experience and his contacts made him well qualified to tell the story of FSG. "It's a good marriage of subject, access and me."

Justin DeFreitas *is a Bay Area writer, editor and artist.*

was globally inevitable following the fall of communism, Williamson looks at the post-de Tocqueville world of socio-political organization and questions the future of democracy (ISI Books, $27.95).

I Invented the Modern Age: The Rise of Henry Ford by *Richard Snow '70*. Historian Snow delivers a fresh account of Michigan's Ford and the way he revolutionized American industry through the invention of the Model T (Scribner, $30).

Financial Justice: The People's Campaign to Stop Lender Abuse by *Robert N. Mayer '71* and *Larry Kirsch*. The authors recount how an alliance of consumer, civil rights, labor, fair lending and other progressive groups emerged to challenge Wall Street and its official protectors and effect substantial legislative reforms (Praeger, $48).

A Map of the Winds by *Mark Statman '80*. In his latest book of poems, the author investigates what it means to look at the world, to live in the world and to wonder about it in ways that are at once speculative and specific (Lavender Ink, $15).

Manhattan Equinox by *Lou Orfanella '82*. Orfanella's novel introduces the reader to the denizens of a Manhattan bar, The Golden Grotto, and reflects on what it means to feel fulfilled when looking back on one's life (Fine Tooth Press, $12.95).

The Third Coast: When Chicago Built the American Dream by *Thomas Dyja '84*. Windy City native Dyja re-creates the story of Chicago in its postwar prime and explains its profound impact on modern America (The Penguin Press, $29.95).

Love, Dishonor, Marry, Die, Cherish, Perish: A Novel by *David Rakoff '86*. The late humorist, essayist and actor's final work, written in verse, surveys characters whose lives are linked by acts of generosity or cruelty (Doubleday, $26.95).

Bodies in Formation: An Ethnography of Anatomy and Surgery Education by *Rachel Prentice '87*. The author shows how medical students become physicians through interactions with colleagues and patients (Duke University Press, $24.95).

Take Up Your Pen: Unilateral Presidential Directives in American Politics by *Graham G. Dodds '88*. The author explores the constitutional and historical development of this executive prerogative and questions how it fits the conception of democracy and the needs of U.S. citizens (University of Pennsylvania Press, $69.95).

The Heavy: A Mother, A Daughter, A Diet — A Memoir by *Dara-Lynn Weiss '92*. Against the backdrop of current debates on childhood obesity and parenting, Weiss recounts her efforts to help her 7-year-old lose weight and become healthier (Random House Publishing Group, $26).

Half-Life: Reflections from Jerusalem on a Broken Neck by *Joshua Prager '94*. In this story of mental growth and indomitable will, journalist Prager reflects on the bus accident that left him paralyzed and describes the struggles of the second half of his life (Byliner, e-book $3.99).

Dancing the New World: Aztecs, Spaniards, and the Choreography of Conquest by *Paul A. Scolieri '95*. The author, a Barnard professor, examines the transformation of the Aztec empire into a Spanish colony through the visual and written representations of dance in colonial discourse (University of Texas Press, $55).

The Sports Gene: Inside the Science of Extraordinary Athletic Performance by *David Epstein '02*. The author, a *Sports Illustrated* senior writer, asks why top athletes excel and examines how individual biology combines with external factors to influence ability (Current Hardcover, $26.95).

The Secrets of Top Students: Tips, Tools, and Techniques for Acing High School and College by *Stefanie Weisman '03*. Taking a holistic approach that covers subjects from diet and exercise to test-taking strategies, the author advises students on how to achieve academic success (Sourcebooks, $14.99).

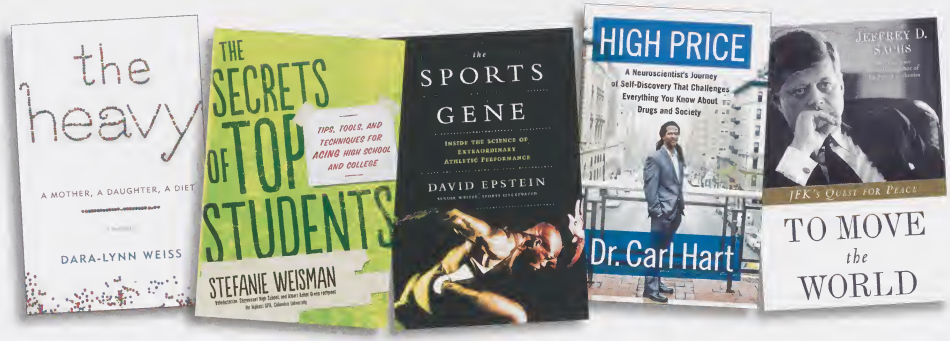
Our Naked Lives: Essays from Gay Italian-American Men edited by *Joseph Anthony LoGiudice '04* and *Michael Carosone*. This collection of essays addresses history, religion, childhood and more, tied together by the authors' shared cultural background and sexual identity (Bordighera Press, $15).

High Price: A Neuroscientist's Journey of Self-Discovery That Challenges Everything You Know About Drugs and Society by *Carl Hart Ph.D., associate professor of psychology*. Hart recounts growing up in one of Miami's toughest neighborhoods and how it led to his research on the effects of drugs on the brain and human behavior (HarperCollins Publishers, $26.99).

China's Search for Security by *Andrew J. Nathan, the Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science*, and *Andrew Scobell*. The authors explain China's international security concerns regarding countries such as Japan, North Korea, Taiwan, Iran, Sudan and the United States as well as internal security concerns and the communist party's future (Columbia University Press, $32.95).

To Move the World: JFK's Quest for Peace by *Jeffrey D. Sachs, the Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development and director of the Earth Institute*. Sachs recalls the year between October 1962 and September 1963 when Kennedy worked to establish more peaceful relations with the Soviet Union and slow down the proliferation of nuclear arms (Random House Publishing Group, $26).

Rewiring the Real: In Conversation with William Gaddis, Richard Powers, Mark Danielewski, and Don DeLillo by *Mark C. Taylor, professor of religion and chair, Department of Religion*. Taylor discusses the title authors' perspectives on new media, communications, information and virtual technologies, their transformative effects on the self and society, and their spiritual influences (Columbia University Press, $27.50).



Obituaries

1937

George W. Hoyns Jr., retired real estate broker, Sugar Land, Texas, on September 29, 2012. Hoyns was born in New York City in 1916. In 1945 he moved to Montvale, N.J., where he served on the Board of Education. Hoyns worked at Ford Instrument Co. and then in real estate. After founding George Hoyns Realty he was manager for Lewis & Haring Realtors in Newton, N.J. Hoyns moved to Texas in 2011. He loved science and was a member of the Audubon Society. He was preceded in death by his brother, Alfred; twin sisters, Harriet C. Bogert and Elsa R. Reilly; wife, Gloria; and former wife, Muriel. Surviving family includes Lawrence S. and Barbara Hoyns, George W. III, Jonathan C., Elsbeth M., Andrew H., James J. Dwyer and Lindsey W. Dwyer; and eight grandchildren.

Donald W. O'Connell, emeritus professor of economics, Pennington, N.J., on October 10, 2012. O'Connell was born in Queens. He earned a master's in 1938 and a doctorate in 1953, both in economics, from GSAS. Columbia was his home from 1933–59, when he left his post as associate professor of banking at the Business School. O'Connell was a member of the senior society of NACOMS, a Kellett Fellow in Economics at Cambridge University (1938–39) and a trustee of the Columbia University Press (1975–81). During WWII, he served with the Navy in the Pacific. O'Connell was an economics editorial writer for the *New York Herald Tribune* from 1949–57. He joined the U-Md. faculty in 1962 and spent 11 years as dean of the former College of Business and Public Administration, then was v.p. of general administration from 1973–79, when he returned to teaching. He was named emeritus professor in 1986. At 74, O'Connell won a Fulbright grant to teach economics in Mexico. His wife of 56 years, the former Jeanne Austin, predeceased him in 2009. Survivors include his children, Ellen Lewis, Stephen, Lauren and Marcia, and their spouses; and six grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Oxfam.

Obituary Submission Guidelines

Columbia College Today welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Deaths are noted in the next available issue in the "Other Deaths Reported" box. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that *CCT* receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at the editors' discretion. Click "Contact Us" at college.columbia.edu/cct, or mail materials to Obituaries Editor, *Columbia College Today*, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 6th Fl., New York, NY 10025.

1940

Albert S. Benoist, artist, author and futurist, retired architect, Monmouth Beach, N.J., on September 20, 2012. Born in Long Branch, N.J., to a family whose patriarch was a world-renowned pianist, Benoist traveled in Europe during his youth and attended the Lycée Carnot in Paris. In 1929, the family returned to Monmouth Beach. Benoist attended Columbia for electrical engineering. During summers, he was an electronics draftsman in the signal laboratories at Sandy Hook and then in the radar section of Camp Evans. The war interrupted his studies and he joined the Army 100th Infantry and later its Signal Corps. He attended Harvard Advanced Engineering School and then Navy Radar Training in Point Loma, Calif. He returned to New Jersey to train Navy cadets on radar and was radar chief on a Seatrain destined for Marseille. Benoist returned to Columbia and graduated from the Architecture School in 1948. He joined the Pratt faculty and in 1959 opened the architectural/engineering firm of Benoist, Goldberg and Shapiro. Benoist was an accomplished photographer, sculptor, painter and illustrator. He was predeceased by his sisters, Louise Phillips and Barnetta Keuper, and daughter Krisha Benoist-Allen. He is survived by his wife; daughters, Andrée Benoist and her husband, Joseph Colquhoun, Alicia and her husband, Russell Dian; and four grandchildren.

1942

Warren C. Baum, retired economist, Bethesda, Md., on August 22, 2012. Baum was born in New York City on January 1, 1922, and graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the College. During WWII, he served in the Office of Strategic Services, where he was based in London and worked with intelligence gathered from the "Ultra" project. He earned a Ph.D. in economics at Harvard and then worked for the Marshall Plan and the RAND Corp., where he authored the book *The French Economy and the State.* In 1959, Baum joined the World Bank, where he rose from staff economist to v.p. for projects, policies and research. In addition to writing two books for the bank, he chaired the award-winning Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research. After his 1987 retirement from the World Bank, Baum was active in several public and private organizations in the Washington, D.C., area and on Martha's Vineyard. He was an avid tennis player, photographer, bridge player, gardener, Redskins fan and reader. Baum is survived by his wife of 66 years, Jessie Scullen Baum; daughters, Kathryn Meyer Yaverbaum and Nancy Lohman; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Anthony E. Ventriglia, retired professor of mathematics, Bronxville, N.Y., on August 28, 2012. Ventriglia was born in New York City on June 20, 1922. He earned a master's in applied mathematics from Brown in 1943 and continued his studies at Cornell until 1944. Ventriglia served in the U.S. Army Air Corps in Langley Field, Va., employed by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, from 1944 until the end of the war. He was an associate professor of mathematics at Manhattan College for 45 years and retired in 1995. Ventriglia was a member of the Mathematical Association of America, American Society for the Advancement of Science, American Mathematical Society and Reformed Church of Bronxville. He enjoyed travel, golf and baking. Ventriglia is survived by his wife, Lois; daughters, Patti Maguire and Linda Carella; five grandchildren; and two nieces. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association.

1943

David Norr, financial analyst, investment adviser, CPA, Scarsdale, N.Y., on August 19, 2012. Norr graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Columbia, from which he also earned an M.B.A. from the Business School (1948). He served in the Army in WWII. Norr intertwined careers as a financial analyst, investment adviser and CPA. He was the only analyst to serve on the Accounting Principles Board and was active on several SEC committees on reporting problems; he appeared before a Senate subcommittee on stock options. Norr devoted much effort to improving disclosure for investors and was a frequent speaker and the author of several articles and pamphlets on financial matters. He fought for expensing unsuccessful wells in the oil industry and for expensing the cost of stock options, and was early to advocate stock buybacks. As an activist, he ridiculed meager stock holdings of outside directors prior to their being given generous stock options. Norr established eight scholarships in honor of family members at their respective universities. He is survived by his wife, Carol; daughter, Amy Norr, and her husband, Jeff Metz; daughter, Susan; and five grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Americans United for the Separation of Church and State or the New York Public Library.

1953



Francis P. King '53

Francis P. King, retired attorney, Denver, on July 19, 2013. King was born in Pocatello, Idaho, where he and his brother were raised by their mother, a native of Pretoria, South Africa. Growing up in Idaho, he found a spiritual connection to the mountains that lasted throughout his life. King developed a lifelong love of skiing and during high school he swept the floors at his uncle's printing shop to earn money

OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

Columbia College Today also has learned of the following deaths. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that *CCT* receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear.

1939 **George A. Delatush,** Tequesta, Fla., on October 14, 2012.
1941 **Edward E. Fischel,** physician, East Setauket, N.Y., on June 24, 2013.
1942 **Edwin W. Bright,** banking executive, Scarborough, N.Y., on June 14, 2013.
Harold Gabel, physician, Oakhurst, N.J., on August 12, 2013.
Arthur S. Graham Jr., Scarsdale, N.Y., on July 24, 2013.
Michael G. Kovach, priest, Millersville, Pa., on July 12, 2013.
1944 **Joseph G. Barata,** retired journalist and advertising and public relations executive, Southport, Conn., October 28, 2012.
Gordon Cotler, author and producer, New York City, on December 20, 2012.
1946 **A. Joseph Foa,** retired insurance agent and real estate salesperson, Montgomery, Texas, on January 13, 2013.
1948 **Carl Gersuny,** retired sociology professor, Peace Dale, R.I., on August 14, 2013.
Gerald T. Hurley, professor, antiquarian book dealer, Berkeley, Calif., on May 25, 2013.
Kennett Love, reporter, Sag Harbor, N.Y., on May 13, 2013.
Leonard Ornstein, cell biologist and professor emeritus, White Plains, N.Y., on May 7, 2013.
1949 **William K. Coltman,** advertising executive, Cathedral City, Calif., on June 15, 2013.
Herbert F. "Smokey" Stover Jr., retired pilot, Laconia, N.H., on May 26, 2013.
1950 **John Hollander,** poet, retired professor, Woodbridge, Conn., on August 17, 2013.
Donald R. Lawrence, attorney, New York City, on June 5, 2013.
1951 **Martin L. Katz,** professor, Carolina, P.R., on October 29, 2012.
1955 **Ronald M. Corn,** Denville, N.J., on June 26, 2013.
Ludwig Dosch, Northport, N.Y., February 23, 2013.
1956 **Seymour J. Mandelbaum,** professor, Philadelphia, on January 23, 2013.
Jehiel Orenstein, rabbi, South Orange, N.J., on May 5, 2013.
1964 **Edward N. Leavy,** attorney, Washington, D.C., on July 23, 2013.
1986 **Kevin A. Hall,** attorney, San Francisco, on November 12, 2012.
1992 **Meredith A. Norton,** author, Oakland, Calif., on August 2, 2013.
2003 **Shannon K. Smith,** grant management specialist, Jamaica Plain, Mass., on June 5, 2013.

to go skiing. In 1949, he accepted a Columbia College National Scholarship and attended until he followed the professional option program into the Law School in 1952. Returning to New York City after his 1957 honorable discharge from the military, King completed his final years of law school, graduating in 1959. He was an editor of the *Columbia Law Review* and was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar. King was an expert in corporations, corporate tax and business law and represented many prominent Colorado businesses. He was often described as a "lawyer's lawyer." An experienced mountaineer, he climbed peaks on four continents and reached the summit of 51 of Colorado's Fourteeners as well as many other peaks. Read more online at http://bit.ly/16oZZLt.

1954

John W. Brackett Jr., retired pulmonologist, Oxford, Conn., on December 8, 2012. Brackett was born on December 20, 1932, in Concord, N.H. He earned an M.D. from P&S in 1958 and in June that same year was commissioned a lieutenant in the Navy. After his residency and fellowship training, he joined Bethesda NH as director of the pulmonary and infectious disease branch. Brackett rose to commander before resigning. He moved to Southbury, Conn., in 1970, when he became chief of pulmonary medicine at Saint Mary's Hospital in Waterbury. He directed the intensive care unit for more than 20 years and was on the faculty of the Yale School of Medicine. Brackett retired from Saint Mary's in 1996. He coached Little League and girls' softball, served on the town parks and recreation committee and helped found the Pop Warner football program. Brackett was on the varsity crew at Columbia and returned to the sport in 1981 with the New Haven Rowing Club. He married Nancy Bogel in 1959. She survives him, as do his children and their spouses: Charles and his wife, Joanne Hayes, Robert and his wife, Kathy, Deborah Gracy and her husband, Bernard, and Jennifer and her husband, Stuart Lathers; nine grandchildren; and a niece.

Richard A. Koerner, attorney and judge, Toms River, N.J., on August 10, 2012. Koerner was born in Elizabeth, N.J., and raised in Union. He served in the Army, 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. He and his wife, Elizabeth Torrance Koerner, were married in Hawaii and returned to New Jersey, where Koerner graduated from Rutgers Law, Class of 1959. They lived in Hillsborough Township for 35 years before retiring and moving to the Lake Ridge community, Toms River, in 1997. Koerner was deputy attorney general during the Richard Hughes administration and practiced law in Hillsborough for 35 years; he was of counsel to Koerner & Crane at the time of his death. He was an attorney for the Hillsborough Township and East Amwell Township Boards of Education. He later became the municipal court judge for Hillsborough Township and the Borough of Rocky Hill. He leaves his wife of 56 years; children, Allison and her husband, Mark Neary, Andrew and his wife, Josianne, and Gretchen and her husband, Michael; brother, Joseph, and his wife, Julie; and four grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Van Dyke Hospice & Palliative Care Center, 99 Rte 37 W, Toms River, NJ 08755.

1960



David S. David '60

David S. David, nephrologist, Beverly Hills, Calif., on April 9, 2013. Born in Baghdad in 1938, David immigrated with his family to New York City, arriving in 1950. He was placekicker for the Lions and served in the Army Reserves, from which he was honorably discharged following a brief call to active duty. After graduating from P&S in 1964, he was attending physician and professor of medicine at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center and the Rogosin Institute in the departments of medicine, surgery and biochemistry. David published more than 100 articles in peer-reviewed journals and was a member of the team of professionals who cared for the first dialysis and kidney transplant patients in New York. After moving to Los Angeles, he was a nephrologist and internist in private practice and professor of clinical medicine at UCLA. David is survived by his wife of 45 years, Vera; daughter, Lisa; son, Dr. Eric '96L, '98 GS, '02 P&S; three grandchildren; brother, Dr. Sami '67, '71 P&S; sister, Karen Chilowicz '72 Barnard; and a number of nieces and nephews.

Norman E. Hildes-Heim, architect and international hotel developer, Fairfield, Conn., on March 20, 2013. Hildes-Heim was born in Fairfield on February 20, 1938. He was educated at Andover and earned an A.B. in history from the College, where he rowed crew. He spent a year at Cambridge University and earned a master's in architecture from Harvard. Hildes-Heim designed and developed hotels at John Carl Warnecke & Associates for InterContinental Hotels Group and Bechtel's International Division and later as a partner with Hotel Development Associates. He covered rowing around the world

as a freelance writer for *The New York Times*. He also coached the Columbia lightweight rowing team while shuttling between New York and Boston during the time when he taught at Harvard. He was a "teaching visitor" at the University of British Columbia School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture and was awarded the UBC Honorary Alumnus Award for his significant contribution to UBC. He was a lifeguard in Fairfield each summer for the past 54 years, loved gardening and raised long-haired Highland Cattle. Hildes-Heim is survived by his adopted son, David Kardos. Memorial contributions may be sent to Robert J. Berta, Hildes-Heim Foundation, c/o McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, Attorneys at Law, 30 Jelliff Ln., Southport, CT 06890.

1961

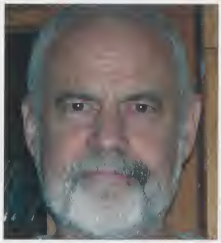
David M. Blicker, attorney, Sacramento, Calif., on October 26, 2012. After earning a J.D. at Boalt Hall, Berkeley Law, Blicker practiced for 34 years, specializing in nonprofits. In summer 1963, he worked for the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) in Montgomery, Ala. From 1967–70, he was executive director for the Legal Aid Society of Sacramento. He also was special counsel to Planned Parenthood for 15 years and taught part time at the Division of Social Work at Cal State-Sacramento. In 1967, Blicker created Child Action, Inc., a nonprofit that links poor families seeking childcare with the state of California. He also was a hearing officer for the Sacramento County Employees' Retirement System. In 1999, Blicker closed his practice, sold his home and joined the Peace Corps, a lifelong dream, going to Kenya. He formed a company owned by seven women's groups that sold bags, baskets and carvings internationally, bypassing the middleman. He also raised more than $16,000 to train Kenyan electrical engineers to install solar energy systems. Blicker also was executive director of Opening Doors, a nonprofit helping survivors of human trafficking and refugees from Iraq, Afghanistan and war zones in Africa and Latin America. Among his survivors is his wife, Terrie Lind.

Edward R. Hotelling, retired pilot, Somis, Calif., on May 21, 2012. Hotelling was born on July 28, 1939, and grew up in Chapel Hill, N.C. He was educated at Phillips Academy prior to matriculating at the College. Hotelling served in the Vietnam War as a Navy fighter pilot from 1961–66, with tours of duty on the carriers *U.S.S. Constellation* and *U.S.S. Ticonderoga*. After the Navy, he briefly worked at Hughes Aircraft Co. and then joined American Airlines. He flew for the company, rising to the rank of captain, until his retirement in 1999. Hotelling was a lifelong aviation fan. From his first models as a child, to the radio-controlled airplanes he built and raced, to DC-10 jets, he loved to fly. After retirement, he owned a powerful T-28 airplane in which he toured and performed formation flying with friends. Hotelling also loved music, supporting the Los Angeles Symphony and LAOpera, and loved to travel. He is survived by his brothers, William and James; children, Joan and Steve; five grandchildren; a number of nephews and nieces; and his companion, Laura Divine.

1962

George M. Abodeely Jr., insurance executive, West Boylston, Mass., on June 30, 2012. Abodeely was born on October 11, 1939, in Worcester. He graduated from Worcester Academy, where he was active in sports, and earned a degree in economics from the College, where he was in the Glee Club. Abodeely remained active with the University, his CC classmates and fraternity, Beta Theta Pi. Abodeely served in the Army Reserve after college and joined the insurance company established in 1940 by his parents, G.M. Abodeely Insurance Agency; he was its president for 46 years. Abodeely was known throughout New England for his knowledge of surety. He enjoyed fly-fishing, hunting, reading, cooking and travel; was a licensed pilot; and was active in his church, St. George Orthodox Cathedral, as a board member, choir member and president of the Parish Council. He is survived by his daughter, Jacqueline; sister, Elaine Saliba, and her husband, Najib, brother, William, and his wife, MaryAnn; and several nephews and nieces. Memorial contributions may be made to The St. George Orthodox Cathedral Endowment Fund, 30 Anna St., Worcester MA 01604; the YMCA of Central Massachusetts, 766 Main St., Worcester, MA 01610; The 200 Foundation, Box 3449, Framingham, MA 01705; or the Sally Abodeely Fund at St. George Orthodox Cathedral.

Robert B. Glassman, professor, Lake Forest, Ill., on April 27, 2013. Glassman was a professor of psychology at Lake Forest College. He joined Lake Forest in 1969 after earning his Ph.D. at Penn and completing a post-doctoral fellowship at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Glassman's intellectual curiosity was part of every aspect of his life: his scholarly work in physiological psychology, neuroscience, religion and science, psychology in business, and various intersections of these and other areas; his friendships; his fatherhood and grandfatherhood; and his long marriage. In summer 2012, he and his wife of 51 years, Harriet Newman Glassman, attended his 50th College reunion. His wife survives him, as do his children, Jill R. Glassman Mendivil, Mark and Dan, and five grandchildren.



Robert B. Glassman '62

1964

Peter K. Shack, attorney and singer, Davis, Calif., on July 3, 2012. Shack was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., on April 14, 1943. He graduated from Georgetown Law in 1967 and then was a Peace Corps volunteer in Guatemala, working with small credit cooperatives in rural Maya Indian areas. There he met Kathryn Wetherell; they were married in 1970. Shack worked for several years in southern New Jersey as a rural legal assistance lawyer. He moved in 1972 to California and worked for 10 years in the antitrust section of the California Office of the Attorney General in Los Angeles. In 1982, he moved to Davis, Calif., and transferred to the Office of the Attorney General in Sacramento, where he worked in the charitable trusts section. Shack retired from the state in 2003 and was of counsel to Manatt, Phelps & Phillips until his death. In addition to playing the piano, harpsichord and recorder, he sang in productions of the Santa Monica Civic Light Opera, the Davis Comic Opera, the Sacramento Opera and the UC Davis Choir. Shack is survived by his wife; son, Steven; niece, Lori; and a grandniece and grandnephew. Memorial contributions may be made to Citizens Who Care, 1017 Main St., Woodland, CA 95695.

1968

Barry Deutsch, attorney, Brooklyn, N.Y., on December 29, 2012. Deutsch grew up in Liberty, N.Y., and earned a degree from the College in political science. Fluent in Spanish, he began his career teaching at a public bilingual school in Manhattan for two years. He graduated from NYU Law and became the staff attorney for the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs for four years; next, he was an immigration lawyer for one year. In 1979 he published a handbook, *How to Avoid TV Repair Rip-Offs*. In 1981, Deutsch moved to Brooklyn and started a broad law practice that he continued to some degree until a few years before his death. For the last 23 years Deutsch was engaged in a variety of ventures unrelated to his law practice. He ran in the Democratic Presidential New Hampshire primaries in 1992 and in the guise of a persona called "Dr. Sherlock Litter" argued against "the evils of globalization," campaigned for economic patriotism, especially for the U.S. auto industry, and was a proponent of environmental cleanup. He was married twice but was not married at the time of his death. He is survived by three older siblings: Ronald, Dale and Elaine Maibaum.

1992

Andrew Littell, banker, Boston, on December 17, 2012. Born in New York City, Littell was a graduate of Middlesex School and Chicago (M.B.A.). A managing director of CVC Credit Partners in London, he was responsible for European loan and bond trading. He is survived by his wife, Brooke Russell; daughters, Grace and Catherine; father, Walter; stepmother, Leli Sudler; sister, Frances Littell, and her husband, Adam Heath; brother, Matthew, and his wife, Sheila Gallagher; stepsister, Isabel Black; and two nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to two Maine organizations: North Haven Arts & Enrichment or North Haven Conservation Partners.

1993

Tania E. Gregory, homemaker, Berkeley, Calif., on December 11, 2012. Gregory was born in Boston and grew up in Aiken. She earned an M.S. in public policy and administration from the Heinz College at Carnegie Mellon. While at CMU, she DJ'd a popular jazz show on the university's radio station. With her wry sense of humor, she titled her show "The Blind Pedestrian" — she was beginning to lose much of her vision at that point. Gregory moved to the San Francisco Bay Area to work as the director of a home-sharing program for senior citizens. When her son, Michael, arrived, she became a stay-at-home mother. Gregory is survived by her husband, Henri Mannik; son; parents, Lois and Michael; brother, Alex; uncles, Serge and Paul; aunt, Karen Goch; and grandparents, Tatiana and Walter Gregory, and Olga Orishyn.

Lisa Palladino

Class Notes

25 40

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Your friends and classmates want to hear from you! Please send news about yourself or your family, or a favorite Columbia College memory, to *CCT* at either the email or postal address above, or you can send news online via *CCT*'s easy-to-use webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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No news from classmates to report for this issue. If you have updates to share, please send them to me at either the postal or email address at the top of the column, or submit them to *CCT* via the easy-to-use webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. We all would love to hear from you!

42

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I begin with memorial tributes to several deceased classmates: **Anthony Ventriglia, William J. Scharffenberger** and Dr. **Maurice Goodgold.**

Anthony Ventriglia died on August 28, 2012, in Bronxville, N.Y., where he had lived for 59 years. He was a retired associate professor of mathematics at Manhattan College. Anthony earned a master's in applied mathematics from Brown in 1943, with additional studies at Cornell in 1943–44. Anthony then served in the Army Air Corps, stationed at Langley Field in Virginia, as a member of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics until the end of the war. He was a member of the American Mathematical Society and the Reformed Church of Bronxville, N.Y., and enjoyed golf and travel. At Columbia, Anthony was manager of the freshman baseball team and was later a loyal alumnus, coming to many of our reunions. He is survived by his wife, Lois; daughters, Linda and Patricia; and five grandchildren. We send condolences to Mrs. Ventriglia and her daughters.

William J. Scharffenberger died on December 12, 2012, at 91. Bill was born in Queens and came to Columbia from Jamaica H.S. He was a member of the International Honor Society Beta Gamma Sigma and, immediately after graduating, enlisted in the Army. As a member of the 81st "Wildcat" Infantry Division, Bill received numerous decorations, including a Bronze Star for heroism in combat. After WWII, Bill began his career as a CPA with PricewaterhouseCoopers, where he worked from 1946–51, and later joined West Virginia Pulp and Paper, where he worked from 1951–55. He became a specialist in corporate reorganizations, working with Wheeling Steel (1955–63), Riegel Paper (1963–66), Penn-Dixie Industries, Saxon Industries and Avnet. He finished his career in Pittsburgh as chairman and CEO of Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel and as Chapter 11 Trustee for the Allegheny Health, Education & Research Foundation. Bill was one of the most prominent business executives in our class and remained active until April 2012, eight months before his death. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; a son, F.F. (Dallas); a daughter, Elizabeth Watson Scharffenberger; and several nieces and nephews. Our sympathy and condolences go out to Bill's family.

The New York Times of March 17, 2013, published a memorial tribute to Dr. **Maurice Goodgold** that was written by his daughter, Iris. Maurice, who died in 1996, was one of my dissecting partners in the anatomy lab at the NYU School of Medicine, so we were more than casual friends. He was ethical and serious, and often expressed his concerns when I took frequent breaks in the smoking room at the back of the lab rather than work at the dissecting table with my three partners. In those years I smoked Camel cigarettes, and I did not stop until 1949. I credit Maurice with helping me become healthier and more devoted to my studies. At Columbia, Maurice won Silver and Gold Crowns as associate business manager of both *Jester* and *Spectator*, and was a member of the Columbia Theater Associates. He also was president of the Pre-Medical Society and was co-editor of *Sawbones*. How he accomplished all this while completing his pre-medical studies is still a mystery to me. I thank his daughter for arousing some fond memories of my old friend.

Arthur E. Smith died in Venice, Fla., on April 10, 2013, at 92. Art's son, Arthur E. Smith Jr. '71, sent me a memorial tribute to his father, describing him as a member of a proud lineage of several generations of Scottish blacksmiths, blessed with a unique blend of intellect, physical strength and moral fiber.

Art grew up in Queens and in rural Southold on Long Island before coming to Columbia, where he majored in history and was captain of the varsity crew, which won major cup races in 1940 and 1941. Art earned his Varsity C, was a member of Crewsters and was awarded the Bangs Cup Medal. In WWII, Art served in the Coast Guard in Alaska and then commanded the U.S. Coast Guard cutter *Agassiz* in the Atlantic campaign. After the war, Art took graduate courses at the Business School, then earned an M.B.A. in 1948 at NYU's business school. He owned and managed A.F. Smith Iron Works in New York City and on Long Island for 33 years and was a dedicated Mason in both Nassau County and New York State, where he was grand treasurer and president of the trustees of the Masonic Home in Utica, N.Y. In 1994, Art and his wife, Audre, moved to Venice, Fla., where he was a board member of the Venice hospital, president of the Country Club Estates Homeowners Association and enjoyed delivering Meals On Wheels with Audre. Art and Audre attended eight, semi-annual family reunions and enjoyed yearly cruises and international travel.

Art had struggled with leukemia for eight years and remained physically active until a few weeks before his death. He is survived by Audre; son, Arthur E. Jr. '71, of La Grange, Ill.; daughter Lorraine Dietz of East Hampstead, N.H.; daughter Elizabeth Klein of Pittsford, N.Y.; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Art was predeceased by daughter Nancy and by his sister, Dorothy. He maintained a lifelong friendship with **Bob Kaufman,** who was coxswain of the crews on which Art rowed as captain. As I write this, Bob is doing well at 92 in Scarsdale, N.Y., and maintains an active interest in Columbia crew and other sports.

On May 15, Dr. **William Robbins** reported that he and his wife, Dagny, moved from Grand Island, Fla., to Waterman Village, a retirement, assisted living and skilled nursing facility in Mount Dora, Fla. Bill described the move as stressful, and he relaxed by reading the autobiography of Columbia professor Mark Van Doren '21 GSAS. Bill said it was an interesting account of Van Doren's life and career, to which he added, "I don't care much for his poetry."

This news aroused memories of a course I took with Professor Van Doren in 1940–41 on "The Poetry of Hardy and Yeats," in which we had to read the very long Hardy classic *The Dynasts*. The class was full of my friends, and at the end of the term everyone received grades of A or A-, except me, who received a B+. I never learned why Professor Van Doren gave me that grade but after the last class he shook my hand and thanked me warmly for my participation in the discussions.

Classmates and friends can reach Bill and Dagny at 2831 Mapleton Ln., Mount Dora, FL 32757; 352-729-6455 or send email to willdag@wmconnect.com. Best wishes to them for comfort and happiness in their new home.

As I write these notes in Northampton, Mass., there is a lot of discussion among football fans about the signing of controversial quarterback Tim Tebow by the New England Patriots, a team owned by Robert Kraft '63. Six Columbia quarterbacks have played on various professional football teams since the 1930s, a remarkable record for an Ivy League school and surely more than most other colleges or universities, though I have not done exhaustive research on this fact. Columbia's great quarterbacks who played professional football were Cliff Montgomery '34, Brooklyn Dodgers (Columbia 7, Stanford 0 in the Rose Bowl on January 1, 1934); Sid Luckman '39, Chicago Bears (Hall of Fame); Paul Governali '43, Boston Yanks, New York Giants (Maxwell Trophy); Archie Roberts '65, Cleveland Browns, later a car-

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diac surgeon; Martin Domres '69, Chargers, Colts, 49ers, Jets, author of *Bump and Run: The Days and Nights of a Rookie Quarterback*, later a financial consultant; and John Witkowski '84, Detroit Lions, later a banking executive.

I am also pleased to report that I have heard from Dr. **Gerald Klingon**, Dr. **Arthur Wellington, Bob Kaufman** and **Don Mankiewicz** via telephone, email and old-fashioned snail mail. All of us are dealing with various physical ailments, so ubiquitous in our over-90 age group, but all are also cognitively intact and loyal to our beloved alma mater. Long may Columbia stand!

Your news and comments are always welcome at my addresses listed at the top of the column.



Take your marks: The Class of '44 freshman track team assembles for its group photo in 1941. See the Class of 1944 Class Notes column by Bill Friedman '44 (pictured first row, second from left) for some reminiscences about those pictured. If you recognize yourself, write to Bill at either of the addresses listed at the top of his column.

PHOTO: COURTESY BILL FRIEDMAN '44

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June 1 was bright, sunny and hot in Morningside Heights — a great day for the 70th reunion luncheon of the Class of '43. It was held in the Core Conference Room in Hamilton Hall, a fitting venue for the three of us old-timers: **Immanuel (Manny) Lichtenstein '43E** and also CC '42; **Bernard Weisberger** and me. We shared the long table with men of the Class of '48 and their family members, so we numbered about 35 in all. The tasty main dish was a variant of chicken Florentine. All three '43ers spoke briefly about the 70 years since graduation, and all extolled the Core Curriculum. A '48er quite properly rose to point out that the courses were memorable because of the guidance and stimulus provided by the section instructors and professors. Without them, the mass of information crammed into such short bursts would have been more confusing than instructive. Amen to that valued observation.

We three then broke up to attend different Dean's Day lectures; I went to one by famed volcanologist Terry Plank '93 GSAS. She gave a most informative talk on the what, where, why, when and how of volcanic activity.

All told the experience was most gratifying, and I urge everyone who can to come to the next Columbia event.

Bernard Weisberger sent the following note after reunion: "I'll quickly sum up the past 12 months, which have been relatively active and decidedly pleasant. In July 2012, I took an eight-day trip to France with my mid-20ish, oldest granddaughter. We were guests of longtime French friends of mine at their summer home in Provence and topped off a four-day visit to sunshiny cities with a long weekend in Paris, which has no equal for museum-going, boulevard-strolling, cafe-lolling and eating.

"I came home in time to enjoy a bang-up party given me by my family for my 90th birthday in August. Thereafter, I got involved marginally in the presidential campaign. I was lucky enough to share authorship of an online article in The Huffington Post with Bill Moyers during the Republican National Convention as well as a subsequent joint publication of a short piece in *The Nation*. Then, a website for historians, History News Network, invited me to be one of several panelists posting articles on the presidential and vice-presidential debates. It gave me a chance to pose as a journalist, my original life's ambition, and even to sit up until the wee hours following each debate, posting my piece to make a morning deadline.

"Things got anticlimactically quiet after that, and so far there's no major news to share with *CCT* readers in 2013; truthfully, the reunion (and a family wedding in New York the same weekend) has been the highlight. But as we Chicago Cubs fans have sadly learned to say, 'Wait till next year!' at this time when I'll speak up again."

The son of Dr. **A.L. Peterson** reports that his father is well at 93-plus. A retired radiologist, he previously was on the staff at Penn's hospital.

In sad news, **Harold C. Vaughan**, a retired history teacher from Fort Lee, N.J., died on September 22, 2012.

Dr. **Cleomenes A.D. Generales** died on December 31, 2012, in La Jolla, Calif. This news was particularly sad for me, as we were close friends during our college years and had corresponded by yearly Christmas cards ever since. His two brothers, and sister, Helle, became my friends, too; each had a colorful life. Constantine, a physician like Cleo and their father, had been a classmate of Wernher von Braun in Zurich, for example. His other brother I recall as Eugene, and he was recruited by the OSS during WWII (I surmise this from the few snippets of those times that he recounted); Eugene eventually became a faculty member at UC San Diego.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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44

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I dedicate this report to that segment of the Columbia College student body identified collectively as "The Commuters." They are those unsung, usually exhausted scholars who arose at an early hour, traveled endlessly to reach campus, often were late for classes, were pressed for time to squeeze in homework and couldn't retire until late at night. I commuted daily from Yonkers, first boarding a trolley, then taking the subway at 242nd Street and Broadway, finally arriving at 116th Street more than an hour after leaving home. I was a glutton for punishment. After Columbia and the war, I commuted to Fordham Law for my J.D. and then again to NYU Law for my LL.M.

When we all enrolled in Columbia in 1940, the percentage of freshmen who commuted was far higher than that of the Class of 2017, as the Great Depression established the doctrine that it was more economical to live at home than to enjoy the luxury of dormitory living.

There was an item in the CC '45 Class Notes in the Summer 2013 issue noting that Dr. Samuel Hemley '45 recalled coming in second as a freshman at a cross country race in Princeton and that he later won a gold at a cross country race in Annapolis, Md., in which all Ivy League schools took part. I communicated my chagrin to Sam that he failed to mention a memorable JV dual cross country meet with NYU in 1941. Our coach, Bob Pitkin '34, announced before the race that the Alumni Association would

award medals to the first three Columbians to finish. Sam took the gold, I took the silver and **Robert Roman '44E,** '45 took the bronze. Sam may have forgotten that race but I didn't, as it was my only medal that year.

I heard from **Paul Sandhaus,** now retired. He and his wife, Helen, divide their time between Santa Fe, N.M., and Manhattan. They have two children, son Richard, born in 1949, and daughter Ellen, born in 1952. During WWII, Paul served in the Army as a lieutenant in a Bomb Disposal Unit in the Pacific, a rather precarious assignment, and he also did Postwar Occupation Duty in Japan. In the "small world" department, I recently discovered that Paul's wife is my cousin's cousin's cousin. (Lack of space precludes me from reciting the endless details.) Never an idle one, Paul earned his pilot's license at 70. He recalls his childhood contact with **Oscar Harkavy** with this comment: "Oddly enough, I met Oscar when we were toddlers. His father owned a neighborhood pharmacy/drug store and I have a dim memory that my parents were friendly with his. The store had a ladder on wheels that rolled from side to side to access high shelves and I used to play on it between admonishments not to. I wonder if Oscar has any memory of that."

Coincidentally, I enjoyed a lengthy conversation with Oscar, better known as Bud, who recently celebrated his 90th birthday at a party in which **Alan Hoffman** and **Ted Jackson** were among the invited guests. Bud and his wife have been busy preparing for the sale of their home in Boynton Beach, Fla. They still have their home in New Rochelle, N.Y.

After Columbia, Bud earned both his master's and Ph.D. from Syracuse and served on the faculty of its business school. One of his main claims to fame, which is well documented on the Internet, is his 35 years as an expert on population programs with the Ford Foundation. Bud was the author of *Curbing Population Growth: An Insider's Perspective on the Population Movement,* and also wrote a widely read article in *The Journal of Finance* titled: "The Relation Between Retained Earnings and Common Stock Prices For Large, Listed Corporations."

I also was in touch with **Bruce Mazlish,** Professor of History Emeritus at M.I.T., whose numerous books include one on Richard Nixon and another on Henry Kissinger. He says, "My book *Reflections on the Modern and the Global* is scheduled to be published in September, along with reprints of two of my other books. On the more personal front, my wife, Neva Goodwin, and I are celebrating 32 years of a wonderful marriage. From previous marriages I have one daughter and three sons. Between my last two sons, one in Maryland, the other in Colorado, I have four grandsons and one granddaughter. My cup runneth over. Next week I am scheduled to have heart surgery. Whatever happens, it's been a great run."

Since that message, we learned that all went well with the surgery. As Bruce put it, "Now my task is to recover."

Like all 90-year-olds, I frequently gaze at old photographs, recalling "the good old days," including one of the Class of 1944 freshman track team. In that picture, shown nearby, was my good friend **Griffith Hartwell,** first row, second from the right, who ran the 440. If my eyes do not deceive me, you can also see **John Brereton, George Floros, William Norcott, John Spitznagel,** Roy Kallop '46, **George Miller,** coach Bob Pitkin '34 and me. Sadly, Griff died in action on April 26, 1945, toward the end of the war. He was a friendly, soft-spoken, kind teammate who never enjoyed the blessing of a full life span. According to the Columbia University Roll of Honor, at least 16 of our '44 classmates suffered a similar fate.

Looking again at that photo, if you recognize yourself or any of our other classmates not identified by me, please contact me and bring me up to date on yourself, your family, classmates and so on. I welcome all news about CC '44, and I know our classmates and other readers would, too.

Finally, we regrettably note the passing of **Howard W. Wilson.**

Dr. William Robbins '42 and his wife, Dagny, moved from Grand Island, Fla., to Waterman Village, a retirement, assisted living and skilled nursing facility in Mount Dora, Fla.

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Charles Gilman shared a memory: "The September 1941 freshman class was the largest ever to that point — I believe 681! We had an experience that fall that I shall never forget: The sophomore class kidnapped one of our class officers. A group of 10 or 12 of us met at the Delta Phi House for a 'What do we do?' meeting. One frosh had uncovered an out-of-town phone number. We identified the number as being in Purdy's Station, N.Y. The way this was done showed ingenuity. We tore a telephone book apart, passed sections around and learned the address. Next we rounded up two autos and set off for Purdy's. We surprised the kidnappers — shocked them really — and freed our classmate. I have always remembered most fondly that fall.

"Sunday, December 7, was a shock, but not a surprise. Most college-bound teens knew for years it was coming!"

Martin Kurtz, who calls himself the "Class of '44 ½–'45" and lives in Great Neck, N.Y., writes: "A prime motivation for this correspondence is to bring to mind that the Class of '45 includes a small group labeled as such but really weren't/aren't. I suspect it is not very well remembered that in fact, I and 75–100 others (the exact number escapes me) of the Class of '45 started at Columbia, as freshman, in a precedent-setting mid-year class, i.e., ''44 ½.' The College formed the class following Pearl Harbor and the nation's entry into the war. Later, we were folded into the '45s. There never was, as far as I know, another mid-year class.

"It was a hectic time for all of us and most, including myself, ended up in the armed services before being able to earn a degree. Those who could returned to their studies, and those happy evenings in the Lion's Den, after the war.

"I was a pre-med and got into medical school (NYU) early in the summer of '42 (because of the war, acceptances were accelerated, to say the least) and very shortly after that volunteered for the Army, the Infantry. I remained in the States, on maneuvers, everywhere and anywhere until suddenly I was discharged to join my medical school class ('48). In retrospect, it was planned this way by the powers in order to keep a supply of physicians (and dentists) in the pipeline for the duration of the war.

"After medical school, my residency training awaited, then, several years teaching at NYU Medical School and finally into practice on Long Island. I maintained a teaching position at NYU Med throughout my working years. Sadly (I really do regret it), I never did get a chance to return to Columbia to complete my college education.

"I married, after medical school graduation, a rather wonderful medical school classmate who very sadly passed away about 2½ years ago. We have three good kids and they have their own happy families, which of course are great fun. I retired about 14 years ago and remain on Long Island. I have been quite lucky, healthwise, and am busy visiting the kids, traveling, playing tennis and learning how to cook."

We also heard from Dr. **Arnold Ritterband** '50 P&S: "Served 1½ years as an electronic technician in the USNR after leaving the College in December '44. Still friendly with Ira Shein '46, '48 GSAS and was a lifelong friend of **Bob Lipsey** '61 GSAS, who died a year ago. Graduated from P&S and served internship, residencies in medicine, fellowship in pathology at Mount Sinai and assistant residency in neurology at the Neurologic Institute.

"Introduced to Phyllis Rosenthal of Schenectady by P&S classmate Dr. Jason Tepper '50 P&S and his brother Dr. Cliff 'Chuch' Tepper '46 P&S and Babies & Children Hospital pediatric residency. They were (Jason) and are (Cliff/'Chuch') my best friends, family pediatricians and colleagues. Fortunate enough to marry Phyllis, to whom I have been happily married for 56 years. I practiced internal medicine in Schenectady from 1959 until retirement in 2004. And yes, I would go into medicine again, in a heartbeat.

"Have three great children, Alan, Vicki and David; and eight magnificent grandchildren. Oldest three are at Villanova, Tufts and the entering freshman class at Yale. Lauren, our Tufts girl, is interested in medicine.

"Phyllis was a trustee at her alma mater, Russell Sage College. I am a clinical professor of medicine at Albany Medical College, and helped develop (Chuch Tepper and I were medical directors) the Schenectady Free Health Clinic. Sadly, at the end of July, after 10 years of providing excellent primary care services to uninsured Schenectadians, the clinic shut down for financial reasons.

"I thought that my 2½ years at Columbia College provided an excellent education, and [I had] accomplished, impressive and likeable classmates (one of them whom I remember particularly, Dr. Irwin Nydick '46, '48 GSAS, I learned is still teaching bedside medicine as a volunteer), but I did not love the College, which I attended as an underage, immature subway commuter during the war. However I did and do love and am grateful to P&S."

"I offer a brief story of the changing times," writes **John M. Khoury.** "Recently, my grandson, who is a college freshman, visited me and I thought he might be interested in

looking at the Columbia College yearbook of 1942. It was given to me by a friend who was graduating and was going into the military service. He saw pictures of a freshman wearing a beanie; every student wore a sports jacket, shirt and tie; *The Varsity Show* had male students dressed as girls and so forth. My grandson found that time very interesting. I find his world interesting, too."

Thank you to the these classmates for getting in touch!

CCT needs a class correspondent to write this column. If you are interested, please contact Alexis Tonti '11 Arts, managing editor: alt2129@columbia.edu or 212-851-7485. In the meantime, please share news about yourself, your family, your career, your travels or even a favorite Columbia College memory using either the email or postal address at the top of the column. You also can send news via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. This column is a wonderful way for the class to stay connected, and we, and your classmates, want to hear from you!

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Richard Heffner is creator and host of the weekly Public TV series *Richard Heffner's Open Mind*. I asked Dick to reflect on some of the incidents and personalities he interviewed that stand out in his 57-year radio and TV broadcasting career. He wrote:

"*Open Mind* went on the air live — without benefit of film or videotape — on May 12, 1956, and surely seemed then very much a Morningside venture, for its very first guests were Columbia College Dean Lawrence H. Chamberlain as well as Columbia professors David Donald, Richard Neustadt, William Leuchtenberg and Allan Nevins (the Pulitzer Prize-winning historian hidden much of the time behind a screen of cigarette smoke unwittingly blown by this comparatively green producer/host still addicted to the filthy weed).

"Many others associated one way or another with Columbia have joined me for conversations on the air during the 57 years since then, including Margaret Mead, Ernest Nagel, Fred W. Friendly, Arthur Levine, Marvin Frankel, Jack Greenberg '45, Norman Podhoretz '50, Lionel Trilling '25, David Denby '65, Charles Frankel '37, Max Frankel '52, Nicholas Lemann, James Wechsler, Herbert Wechsler, Herbert Pardes, Harry W. Jones, Donald Barr '41, Lawrence Cremin, Millicent McIntosh, Henry Wriston, University President William McGill, coach Aldo "Buff" Donelli, Robert Merton, Jason Epstein '49, Eric Foner '63 and the lovely Michele Moody-Adams, dean of the College when we celebrated our 60th class reunion. And as I told the dean at the time, when asked by guests or viewers how I manage to engage in conversation on *Open Mind* subjects spanning so many different disciplines, I make very clear that 'Columbia did it' … thanks to the College's devotion to the mind-broadening liberal arts!

"These now near-six decades of weekly public television conversations have been great good fun … and I look forward to at least some more years at them, just as I hope to spend more years at my more formal educational role as University Professor of Communications and Public Policy at Rutgers. For except for time spent at ABC, CBS and NBC — and then as the founding general manager of New York's Channel 13 — all of my years have been spent in the service of teaching … on campus and off, on air and off! And I have myself been taught so much by my encounters with so many wonderful *Open Mind* guests.

"Mario Cuomo instructed me so well in the difference between an abiding interest in governance, such as his own, and one in politics alone. When asked who my 'best guest' was over the years, incidentally, Mario always comes to mind … as does Ed Koch … for a New York political duo. So do Betty Friedan and Gloria Steinem … and Elie Wiesel, with whom I wrote *Conversations With Elie Wiesel*, based on the dozens of *Open Minds* we have done together — our most recent on 'FDR And The Jews.' And, of course, Floyd Abrams, the famed free speech, free press, First Amendment attorney (three dozen more *Open Minds* over the years) who rejects my criticism of his Citizens United victory in the Supreme Court and my description of him as a free speech 'absolutist,' but keeps reminding me on the air that the First Amendment does insist that 'Congress shall make no law … abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press.'

"During a break between taping programs with Lewis Thomas, the great physician and prize-winning author (*The Lives of a Cell: Notes of a Biology Watcher*), this eminently wise and always-friendly president of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center lit up a cigarette, and when I chastised him, joking that I was of a mind to comment on his dangerous, nasty habit when the beady red eye of the camera went on again, he warned me that if I did so, he would just get up and walk away from *Open Mind*'s trademark round table and out of the studio. And I believe he would have done just that! Happily, when our own **Paul Marks** '49 P&S succeeded Lew Thomas as president at Memorial and joined me on the program, he didn't light up!

"Indeed, long after my own cigarette smoke nearly obliterated Allan Nevins from the screen during our first *Open Mind*, I was so tense in taping a special program on 'Civil Rights In America' with Malcolm X, Jim Farmer and others the June 1963 morning after the night John F. Kennedy made his first and quite memorable televised civil rights speech and the NAACP's Medgar Evers was assassinated in Mississippi, I lit up and unwittingly did the same damn thing to Malcolm. I suspect that if the several quite scary armed guards he had brought to the studio that morning realized that clouds of my smoke were again nearly wiping out a guest, I would have heard more about the incident. As it was, Jim more than held his own that day with Malcolm X, who was still in his hugely anti-USA stage, and we immediately received a State Department request for multiple copies of the program for distribution overseas. State obviously thought that Malcolm had been bested by Jim ... and not just because my smoke had gotten in his eyes.

"Very early on, *The New York Times* had reviewed as 'Breaking Trail' the first (August 4, 1956) of a three-program *Open Mind* series I had scheduled on the subject of homosexuality, something not much talked about on the air those days. Interestingly, it occasioned one of only two attempts at what I would call censorship during all the years I have been a broadcaster … it came from the church, and was rejected out of hand by the industry, despite all the talk those days about how 'chicken' its leaders were. Indeed, New York's Cardinal Francis Spellman had immediately protested to the Sarnoffs at RCA/NBC that if I went ahead as planned and produced and hosted my second and third programs on homosexuality (the last with Margaret Mead '28 GSAS and Max Lerner, a beauty!), the church would sue for the revocation of its local station's license. The result was that top network brass called, asked who I was and what my credentials were (they surely had never heard of this strictly local 'kid' producer), what I had planned for the rest of my series and who were and what was the stature of my future guests. And within the course of just one day's back and forth the network told me to go ahead as scheduled and to forget the whole incident!

"More on would-be censorship at another early point in my broadcasting career: I was responsible then for an educational special called 'Faces of War,' a survey of the faces men have put upon war, from the ancients to Dwight D. Eisenhower, for which CBS had generously given us Sunday afternoon time live on its television network. We needed to raise some dollars to make the production work, unfortunately, and a highly regarded public institution, the New York Public Library, generously provided all of the $5,000 we sought. The Saturday afternoon before our program, however, the library's chairman chose, lately, to

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WE GREATLY APPRECIATE your support and ask that you stay in touch and share news at college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus.

read our script, and in mid-Cold War decided it was too 'radical' and 'pacifist' a document. Immediately, a call went to his friend Bill Paley, the chairman of CBS, demanding that the program be scrubbed. As in the RCA/NBC incident, however, when questions were asked, my answers were accepted, and the show went on as planned. But what an afternoon and evening of tension … this time with the State, not the church, playing would-be censor, and the industry standing tall again!

"Many of these and other programs with which I have been associated over the years (more than 1,500) can be seen now at thirteen.org/openmind — at least those produced once the technology and the dollars were available to make kinescopes off the air or videotapes during recording sessions. Generous individuals and foundations made the funds available to create this increasingly valuable historical electronic archive, which I have gifted to PBS and to Channel Thirteen in New York, where each Saturday at noon *Richard Heffner's Open Mind* programs still make their public television debut, rebroadcast several times the following Sundays and Mondays on CUNY-TV, and all freely available at all times to everyone, everywhere on our website." [See also feature on Heffner in the Fall 2012 *CCT*.]

Mark your calendar: A class luncheon has been set for Thursday, October 24, in New York. Details may have reached you already. As before, wives and friends are invited and we have also asked members of the Class of '45 to join us. The war years at Columbia disrupted the make-up of those classes (ours included) and many '45ers are well known to us. The idea had positive responses from both classes in the small survey I made.

John McConnell's recent request for **Gene Rogers**' address prompts my welcoming contact information inquiries for classmates you would like to catch up with.

Columbia College Today's Summer 2013 issue caused me surprise and smiles. When I turned to page 42 I thought I recognized the two photos taken in 1942 as mine and, sure enough, the photo credits carried my name. Photographers, like elephants, usually remember pictures they have taken. If you have the issue, see the photo essay "WWII & Columbia," which begins on that same page. Sure to bring back memories. [Editor's note: Or go to college.columbia.edu/cct/category/image_galleries/wwii_columbia.]

With regret I report the passing of **Irving Sherr.** Irv and his wife, Anne, have been strong supporters of the College through these many years.

I also am sorry to advise of the passing of **Leon J. Quinto** '52 GSAS on July 25. Leon also earned M.A. and Ph.D. degrees at Columbia. He was an economist with IBM.

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Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
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Howard Stein writes: "Since summer 2000 I have been retired from a professorship in the Department of Philosophy and the Committee on the Conceptual Foundations of Science at Chicago. I live in Hyde Park, Chicago. I have two children — a daughter who lives in the Bay Area (of California, that is — not to be confused with the Bay State), and a son who lives in Chicago. My previous career was rather winding, from a B.A. at Columbia to Chicago, where I earned a Ph.D. in philosophy in 1958 while teaching natural sciences in the undergraduate college; to a year at the University of Michigan, where I earned an M.S. in mathematics; to three years at Brandeis, where I taught mathematics; to five years in the computer industry; to a professorship of philosophy at Case Institute of Technology (then about to merge with Western Reserve University) from 1967–73; to a professorship of philosophy at Columbia from 1973–80; then back to Chicago in 1980.

Howard Stein '47 lives in Hyde Park, Chicago, and has been retired from a professorship in the Department of Philosophy at Chicago since summer 2000.

"As I look back on my undergraduate years at Columbia (1944–47), what I treasure most is the combination of the wonderful required courses — Humanities and Contemporary Civilization (two years each in those days). Above all, for me, was the revelatory Humanities A, on literature, and the freedom to explore a wide range of interests. As to the latter, I was able, in three years, to take a yearlong course in art history; a marvelous two-year sequence (a graduate course open to undergraduates) in Jewish history with the great scholar Salo Baron (a course which, and a teacher who, opened my eyes to what scholarly research in a humanistic discipline can be); six courses in philosophy (counting J.H. Randall (Class of 1918)'s yearlong course in the history of philosophy as two semester courses), ranging from Erwin Edman [Class of 1916, Class of 1920 GSAS'] 'Introduction to Philosophy,' through the year course I have just mentioned (which I came, I fear irreverently, to call 'Randology'), to another course that proved revelatory, Ernest Nagel '31 GSAS' 'Theory of Knowledge,'; and seven courses in mathematics, culminating in yet another revelation, Edgar R. Lorch's yearlong graduate course (open to undergraduates) in the theory of functions of a complex variable.

"In the end, merely following my inclination and taking as full a program of courses as was allowed, without having planned to, I satisfied the requirements for the B.A. in three years (without any summer courses) and graduated with the equivalent of a double major, with honors, in mathematics and philosophy. This combination of rigorous courses, extremely good teachers (at least a few such!), with a small degree of useful constraint but great liberty to follow one's bent, has ever since seemed to me pretty close to the ideal of what a college education should offer a student."

Thank you to Howard for writing in! *CCT* still needs a class correspondent to write this column. If you are interested, please contact Alexis Tonti '11 Arts, managing editor: alt2129@columbia.edu or 212-851-7485. In the meantime, please share news about yourself, your family, your career, your travels or even a favorite Columbia College memory using either the email or postal address at the top of the column. You also can send news via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. This column is a wonderful way for the class to stay connected, and we, and your classmates, want to hear from you!

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Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
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George Woolfe got in touch: "I am constantly amazed at how active Class of '48 [members are] in their professions or communities despite our advanced years. Some of us are still teaching or lecturing or practicing. Others are traveling to exotic places, or maybe just to see our offspring.

"My wife, Elaine '47 GS, and I recently returned from Mexico and are planning a cruise in September. Bill Farren '49 spent all of April touring Germany by bus and river cruises. Golf is still an alternative for me and, when I can find a partner, duplicate bridge.

"Along that line, if anyone has an address for Andy Gabrilovitch '49, please pass it on to our editor."

Bob Silbert wrote in with some thoughts on Alumni Reunion Weekend, which took place in early June: "About 10 of our classmates made the 65th reunion of our graduation. It was a grand affair. [Attorney General] Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, '76L was one of the speakers [at Dean's Day on June 1]. We shared our luncheon with the graduates of the Class of 1943. Our impression was that everybody seemed to be having a great time. It was very enjoyable and people seemed genuinely happy to be back on campus. Everybody extolled their Columbia experience, particularly the Core Humanities courses in the first and second years. Everybody we met seemed very happy to be back on Morningside Heights, especially some 90-year-old alumni. It was impressive to see so many fairly elderly graduates appear so happy to be back at Columbia, and the genuine appreciation all of them had about the Humanities courses."

Heywood Shelley '50L, of Brooklyn, writes, "As I am retired with time on my hands, I've written a history of my family at Columbia University.

"My father, Robert Shelley Class of 1919, attended Columbia College in the WWI era. His friends included Irwin Edman (Class of 1916, '20 GSAS), who went on to become a philosophy professor of note at the College. My brother, Edwin '40, '41E, may have been named after him. My father was a successful real estate developer. He built several apartment buildings including the Holland House in Forest Hills which, at the time, was the tallest building in Queens

"I recall my father's excitement when the College won the Rose Bowl, the then-equivalent of today's Super Bowl, in 1934 by a score of 7–0, won with the Statue of Liberty play. My whole family attended the rematch at Baker Field in 1936, which Columbia again won 7–0. My mother was unusually quiet during the game; when I asked her afterward why, she said she wondered why the clock ran backward.

"After service in the Army during WWII, I entered the Law School. I graduated from the College in 1948 and from the Law School in 1950, the two-year interval being by virtue of 'professional

option,' which allowed for my first year of law school to count as the last year of college. During the academic year following my law school graduation, I held the paying position of 'associate,' a teaching position meeting with the freshman class in groups of 20 (the class was about 300). I went on to practice law for more than 50 years with a Wall Street firm and my clients included George H.W. Bush (the first President Bush) and the New York Mets. The law firm is Carter, Ledyard & Milburn, and one of its alumni was Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

"On December 8, 1941 (the day after Pearl Harbor), Ed was working for Curtis Wright, a manufacturer of airplanes for the military. His job was testing propellers and he was on a test flight when an Army plane flew alongside and motioned for him to land. At that time the U.S. Army — there was no separate Air Force then — was using WWI airplanes for test flights and these had markings not unlike those of the Japanese Air Force.

"When Ed got home, his wife said, 'We had an air raid alert today.'

"Ed said, 'I was it.'

"Ed's wife, Florence Dubroff Shelley '40 Barnard, '41J, was editor-in-chief of the *Barnard Bulletin*.

"My sister, Phyllis Jaffe '49L, served in the Women's Army Corps (the WACs) during WWII and upon her return from service entered the Law School as one of three women in a class of 103, all of whom were WWII veterans. She had a distinguished career as a lawyer specializing in school law, ultimately representing many of the school boards in Westchester County and points north.

"My niece, Carolyn LeBel '69 Barnard, had a long career with the New York school system that included teaching English as a Second Language.

"My daughter, Alexandra Shelley '96 Arts, broke family tradition by going to Yale as an undergraduate but redeemed herself by getting an M.F.A. at the School of the Arts. For two years she taught logic and rhetoric at the College. She now teaches fiction workshops and edits books, among those the best-selling novel *The Help*.

"My 9-year-old granddaughter shows all the signs of following the family tradition."

Leonard Ornstein's daughter, Cindy, wrote to *CCT* with the news of his death at 87 on May 7, 2013. Leonard, who resided in Westchester County, was a renowned cell biologist and a professor emeritus at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine. He earned an M.A. in 1949 and a Ph.D. in 1957, both from GSAS and in biological sciences. In addition to his daughter, Leonard is survived by his wife of 68 years, Theresa Roller Ornstein; sister, Norma O. Goldstein; sons, Avi and Tad; son-in-law, Charles Johnson; daughters-in-law, Bernice Nowak-Ornstein and Lyanne LaBelle Ornstein; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by another daughter, Rani Simoff. A full obituary will be published in a future issue in the Obituaries column.

Thanks to George, Bob and Heywood for writing in!

CCT needs a class correspondent to write this column. If you are interested, please contact Alexis Tonti '11 Arts, managing editor: alt2129@columbia.edu or 212-851-7485. In the meantime, please share your thoughts and stories with us by sending a letter or email to the postal or email address at the top of the column or though *CCT*'s easy-to-use webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. We, and your classmates, want to hear from you!

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MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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49

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Summer heat and humidity are upon us at this writing, but the Class of '49 can be proud of the spirit and vitality it exhibits as an example for all!

This correspondent experienced a number of problems along with a computer crash that delayed the writing of this column two weeks beyond deadline. There is an upside to this: an outburst of excitement and multiple group emails regarding the appearance of a video featuring the "Big C." It came to us courtesy of **Bill Lubic**'s niece and is a documentary short of guys jumping off the rocks and into the Harlem River: vimeo.com/35261042.

Writing in response to the video, **Joe Russell** '52L has once again enhanced our knowledge and understanding of the city we live in. He says, "Extraordinary! If anyone had told me of this I would not have believed it — those damn fools are jumping off into the Harlem River Ship Canal, dug in about 1913 to connect the Harlem River with the outlet of Spuyten Duyvil Creek (the latter coming down from the north, roughly along the bed of what is now Kingsbridge Avenue in the Bronx), resulting in the physical separation of the northernmost part of Manhattan — Marble Hill — from the island itself, but the political boundaries unchanged. [My wife] Charlotte and I lived in an apartment of the then quite new Marble Hill Houses during my second and third years at the Law School, and I learned the local history then."

Marv Lipman in turn wrote to thank Joe for the history lesson, though my favorite response came from Marv's wife, Naomi: "Didn't we lose an undergraduate (crew member) in those waters some years ago? Not funny, not courageous, just plain stupid!"

I also heard from **Joe Levie.** Once upon a time, he was known to be a stellar light of the law profession. He has now succeeded himself and, I would say, elevated himself to that of author. His book is *True Successor: A Novel of the New Roman Empire*. It would be an accomplishment at any age but to do so during the golden years, when others have chosen to rest on their laurels, is something else again. Joe is to be admired, and read, for this effort.

As for the news from my corner, my wife Karen's and my trip to Maui to celebrate my brother Bert Sussman '47's 90th birthday was wonderful and left us wanting more. Hawaii is both a continent away and a very different part of our nation — kinder, gentler, warmer, and I'm not just referring to the weather.

I hope all had a great summer.

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Bud Kassel took a tumble on the final day of the ski season at Stowe, Vt., last spring, and suffered a fractured pelvis. He managed to ski to the bottom of the slope, and after weeks of hospitalization, rehab and wheelchairs, was ready for the tennis courts and looking ahead to the next ski season.

Al Schmitt says he can't stand being retired. All he does is mow the lawn, find something to paint or think of something to complain about. He does figure, though, that it beats the alternative.

Arthur Thomas values his experience as an oarsman at Columbia and recalls the 1947 Intercollegiate Rowing Association Regatta at Poughkeepsie, N.Y., memorable as the first post-WWII IRA regatta. Art rowed bow on the JV crew; regrettably, none of the three Columbia shells placed among the leaders, but it was a great event with 11 colleges and universities participating.

In the Winter 2012–13 issue of *CCT*, we reported the publication of a book devoted to the career of **Arthur Westing.** The title is *Arthur H. Westing: Pioneer on the Environmental Impact of War*. A companion volume now has been published, *From Environmental to Comprehensive Security*. Both books are published by Springer as part of its series *Springer Briefs on Pioneers in Science and Practice*. For information online, go to springer.com.

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WWI ended on November 11, 1918, and our country eventually began honoring its veterans on that day. Our class' WWII veterans swapped khaki uniforms and sailor hats for blue beanies as they began their freshman year in the College in 1947 alongside bright-eyed recent high school graduates. How many members of our class surrendered their light blue cap and gown after graduation for the appropriate attire of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines? Your class correspondent does not have a list of all those who served our country during the Korean War and later in Vietnam. It would certainly be appropriate if class members would volunteer to share this information from their own records or known archives; you can send it to me at either address at the top of the column.

Our class yearbook, *The Columbian of 1951*, points out the significance of having an Ivy League school like Columbia involved in military training. During WWII, more than 23,000 officers trained on our campus. During the time we received our education on Morningside Heights, about 10 percent of the College enrollment was midshipmen. Classmates such as **Don Beattie, Richard Boyle, Len Stoehr** and **Jim Lowe,** and the late **Jay Battenberg, Ken Birdsall** and **Paul Coogan,** to name a few, were among that distinguished group. Although the list of survivors is thinning, the cadre of veterans who remain is tight-knit and tries to meet annually. Plans are under way for a meeting in Jacksonville, Fla. NROTC members should keep in touch with Jim and Don. By the way, Don's father served in the Navy in WWI. Don was with the USAF during Korea; his son, Tom, became an Air Force fighter pilot; and now grandson Travis is a Marine who recently completed his third deployment and is getting married to celebrate.

If you are aware of classmates, or anyone from other classes, who deserve to be in the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame, please get in touch with **Tom Powers.** He is anxious to submit the names of deserving Lions; selections are made every two years. Tom can be reached at 937-497-1929.

Finally, I'd welcome help from a classmate who wants to be my associate Class Notes writer, and who has some fresh ideas for this column. Don't be bashful! Volunteer! Again, you can write me at the addresses at the top of the column.

52

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Your reporter says "hello." I am writing this in the month that is busting out all over, as I like to think of June. This month is great because of all the weddings and graduations and, of course, the beginning of summer.

My wife, Maxine, and I had three of our grandchildren graduate, fortunately not at the same time, so we were able to attend all three graduations in different locations.

First up was our grandson Andrew (our daughter's son), from Cornell. We spent four days in Ithaca on Cayuga Lake, where my daughter had rented a house so we all could stay together for the weekend. Andrew majored in computer science and was recruited by Facebook for a good job in California even before he graduated.

One week later, our granddaughter Natalie (our younger son's daughter) graduated from Notre Dame H.S. in Bethlehem, Pa. She was in the "top 10" in her class and received a number of special graduation awards. Natalie wants to pursue a career in industrial design and was accepted into a number of colleges where she was offered scholarships; she chose the University of Cincinnati.

Two weeks later, our granddaughter Abigail (our older son's daughter) graduated from Scarsdale (N.Y.) H.S. Abigail is interested in the culinary arts and event planning. She has been accepted into Johnson & Wales in Providence, R.I., which specializes in these fields.

It was special for Maxine and I to see these grandchildren, one from each of our three children, achieve these milestones as they progress to fulfill the goals and passions they have set for themselves.

Henry H. Kramer '53 GSAS writes, "Lately I've noticed that many of the entries for our class relate classmates' experiences after leaving Columbia. Now that I have finally retired, I would like to tell you about mine.

"I stayed out of the draft for a year by enrolling in the graduate chemistry program at Columbia and receiving my M.A. in chemistry in 1953. Then I was drafted into the Army and served most of my two years in Germany as a medic, which was great duty. I continued my education, supported by the GI Bill, and received a Ph.D. in physical chemistry from Indiana University in 1960. In the meantime, I married in 1959 — we recently celebrated our 54th wedding anniversary.

"My first employment, which began in June 1960, was with Union Carbide at its nuclear reactor in Sterling Forest, N.Y., where I did exploratory research using the reactor to create new businesses opportunities. These studies resulted in the production and sales of medical radioisotopes primarily for medical use and, aided by my nine-month sabbatical at the Johns Hopkins medical institutions to study nuclear medicine, in the production and sales of radiopharmaceuticals. The experiences at Union Carbide led to numerous peer-reviewed publications and a handful of patents. In the meantime, with the dedicated help of my wife, we raised three children who now have successful careers.

"During my tenure at Union Carbide I worked my way up the R&D management ladder, and I left in August 1978 to become the corporate v.p. of R&D at Medi+Physics, a subsidiary of Hoffmann-La Roche, in Emeryville, Calif. In September 1989, I was elected a fellow of the American College of Nuclear Physicians. In December 1989, Medi+Physics was sold to Amersham International, and I decided to stay in California and seek consulting opportunities. While consulting for more than a handful of companies, I saw a need for the radiopharmaceutical industry to have a credible voice in Washington, D.C., to the government regulatory agencies and to Congress. The radiopharmaceutical industry is the most regulated industry in the United States. In March 1993, I incorporated a 501(c)6 trade lobbying organization with the name Council on Radionuclides and Radiopharmaceuticals (CORAR), of which I became the executive director. I resigned from my position in August 2011 with a one-year tapering consultantship, finally retiring at 82.

"While performing my duties for CORAR I was asked to create a teaching trade organization, a 501(c)3 organization with a focus on making family physicians aware of the benefits of nuclear medicine in the diagnosis and treatment of patients. This incorporation was accomplished in January 2000 with the name Nuclear Medicine Industry Association and, again, I was employed in the position of executive director. NMIA-NA was discontinued in June 2004.

"Now, what am I doing in my early retirement? I have written more than 500 pages of my memoirs. I am finalizing a draft of *Management Nuggets,* finalizing a memoir of my Army experience and finalizing a draft of a to-do list of actions that need to be addressed when someone in the family dies."

Tom Whitley says, "My wife, Carol, and I have lived in Washington, D.C., since 1992, when she was promoted and transferred at Associated Universities, which manages radio astronomy facilities for the National Science Foundation. She has now retired after 40 years. (We met in 1989; two children for each, boy and girl.)

"Your column and those of prior reporters confirms what we all have known: that Columbia produces many men and women of professional distinction but also many who realized that a life of learning, experience and interests can be very fulfilling.

"I graduated from Cornell Law and followed that by a brief practice with Milbank Tweed, followed by 22 years in the law department of Bethlehem Steel. Paper pushing became arduous; I went back to New York to real estate management, where I felt rewarded. The year 1987 was difficult. My third career was 14 rewarding years of tour guiding in D.C. This has been followed by six years in learning and advocacy involving climate change and water and energy conservation for ourselves and our posterity.

"Carol and I have found living in D.C. to be pleasant and rewarding. I think Columbia prepared me well to bring many issues, values and ideas together. In addition, the arts and especially jazz have kept me good company for more than 70 years, and photography has joined other passions. A life of civic service is a firm foundation."

Your reporter wishes all the members of the Class of 1952 good luck and good health!

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Our 60th reunion was a wonderful success! This was the first reunion attended by **Gordon Henderson** and **Harry Rice,** and both were ecstatic about every event. The following is a portion of an email that Gordon sent several weeks afterward:

"I just need to write to let you know what a fantastic reunion you, the Reunion Committee and the College put together. I did not know what to expect, but from my first step into the Rare Book & Manuscript Library [in Butler Library], I knew it was probably going to be a fine weekend and I would be ever so glad I came. It was and I was.

"A friend had said it would likely be no more than an assembly of old men. Nothing could be wider of the mark! 'Just a gathering of old men' can hardly describe the lun-

Columbia School Designations

In Class Notes, these designations indicate Columbia degrees from schools other than the College.

Arch.	School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
Arts	School of the Arts
Barnard	Barnard College
Business	Graduate School of Business
CE	School of Continuing Education
Dental	College of Dental Medicine
E	The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
GS	School of General Studies
GSAS	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
J	Graduate School of Journalism
L	School of Law
Nursing	School of Nursing
P&S	College of Physicians and Surgeons
PH	Mailman School of Public Health
SIPA	School of International and Public Affairs
SW	School of Social Work
TC	Teachers College

cheons and receptions and dinners where the food was outstanding and a bar was always present offering first-rate wines and spirits. Nor can it cover talks by faculty (Henry Graff '49 GSAS in particular); tours of the library and the new campus north of 125th Street; a choice of attending a Broadway show, a ballet performance or an evening at Lincoln Center with excellent seats at reduced prices; or [the experience of having] reunion staff on hand to bring a chair to someone needing to sit down, to produce a new identification badge to replace one left behind in a hotel room or to tell one how to get to one of the many buildings built or renamed since we were there.

"And as for the old men who came, I have to say I found them interesting, both to talk with and to listen to. I wanted to know what they had done since graduation and I was most impressed with their rich and varied lives. To describe our 60th reunion as no more than 'a bunch of old men' would be just plain wrong because it does not begin to describe the esprit found at the gathering and the skill with which it was organized. I attended and returned home to Atlanta raving about the good time I had. I could not be more pleased that I went."

Thanks to **George Lowry**'s persuasive efforts, Michael Ryan, director of Columbia's Rare Book & Manuscript Library, spoke to our classmates Thursday evening in a fascinating reception in Butler Library. He talked about some of the library's rare manuscripts, including a copy of James Joyce's *Ulysses* that was used in the original trial to ban the book in the United States. Also at the reception, Dean James J. Valentini spoke about the importance of the Core Curriculum in the lives of Columbia College graduates.

On Friday we gathered under a tent on South Lawn for a sumptuous dinner and to hear **Mike Sovern**'s anecdotes of some of the difficult moments he faced as president of the University, a post he held from 1980–1993.

Our special guest at Saturday's luncheon in the library of Casa Italiana was Professor Emeritus of History Henry Graff '49 GSAS, the renowned scholar who has known and advised every president since Harry Truman. Many of us remember the story about one of our classmates that Professor Graff shared at our 30th reunion. The professor's recollection went something like this: "One day, I was walking up Amsterdam Avenue when I saw General Eisenhower [then president of the University] waiting for the light to change from red to green so that he could walk across the street. At the time, I couldn't see a single car up or down Amsterdam Avenue. Standing behind General Eisenhower was a freshman member of the Class of 1953 wearing a traditional blue beanie. After the light changed and the general successfully crossed the street, your classmate turned to me and exclaimed, 'It makes you wonder how he ever crossed the English Channel.'"

Our Saturday class dinner was another special occasion in Butler. After we finished dinner, our toastmaster, **Jay Kane,** introduced the evening's speakers. **Ken Heyman,** the renowned photographer who collaborated with Margaret Mead on a number of books, was enthralling. **Larry Harte,** who has written a number of humorous autobiographical books, was delightful, and we all appreciated his bringing free copies of one of his books to distribute. **Allan Jackman** talked about the unfortunate life of his fraternity brother **Jack Molinas.** Lastly, **Bill Frosch** announced that, thanks to the generosity of our classmates, we had exceeded our goal of $70,000 and donated more than $173,000 to the Columbia College Fund.

The following is a list of classmates and their guests who attended one or more of our reunion events: **Joseph Aaron** and his wife, Jane; **Stanley Alt** and his wife, Susan; **Richard Auwarter; George Barth** and his wife, Claire; Ann Belknap; **Peter Carbonara** and his wife, Jean; **Edward Clark; John Condemi; Joel Danziger** and his wife, Joan; **John Huneke** and his bride, Claire Feger-Huneke; **Morton Freilicher** and his wife, Yseult; **William Frosch** and his wife, Paula; **Larry Harte; Eliot Hearst; Seymour Hendel** and his wife, Patricia; **Gordon Henderson; Arthur Hessinger** and his wife, Helen; **Ken Heyman; Mohammad Hussan; Allan Jackman** and Evelyn Topper; Jay **Kane; Richard Kleid** and his wife, Rhoda; **George Lowry** and his wife, Judith; **Pete Pellett;** Kathy Phillips; **Gerald Pinsky; Martin Rabinowitz** and his wife, Anna; **Steven Reich** and his wife, Shyla; **Harry Rice; Lewis Robins** and his wife, Saralee; **Jules Ross;** Elaine Rousseau; **Nicholas Samios** and his wife, Mary; **Stanley Sklar** and his wife, Margot; **Michael Sovern** and his wife, Pat; **James Steiner; Robert Walzer** and his wife, Anne; and **William Won** and his wife, Margaret Lai.

It was a spectacular reunion and I hope we'll all be around in five years to celebrate the next memorable occasion.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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Jim Niver '54 quoted *True Grit*'s Rooster Cogburn: "I'm RE-tired; RE-laxing; and RE-joicing."

54

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Looking at the Summer 2013 *CCT*, I was happy to see the list of all alumni classes who will be celebrating Alumni Reunion Weekend from Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. Lo and behold, there we were. Both **Brian Tansey** and **Jerry Gordon** have said they are planning to attend, which makes me feel great, as I intend to go, too, along with my wife. I hope that we will get a great turnout.

Speaking of events, I had the pleasure of attending **Larry Gartner**'s birthday gathering. It was beautifully done with family and friends. The evening was lovely. Some of the children put together a great group of slides that included Larry's wife, Carol, and their children. There also were a couple of slides that included several of our classmates on campus.

I received a nice note from **Jim Niver,** who was a member of our wrestling team. I asked Jim via email whether all was well with and for him. I really enjoyed his answer. He quoted *True Grit*'s Rooster Cogburn: "I'm RE-tired; RE-laxing; and RE-joicing." I hope he can come to our next reunion.

Bob Viarengo stays in good health with his wife, Delores, in Massachusetts. Travel remains a source of pleasure.

I had the pleasure of spending time with **Herb Wittow** and his wife, Sandra, in Denver several times. Sandra, a wonderful artist, wrote a book, *Thicker Than Paint*, about her life. Herb decided to have it printed and the result is beautiful. I found it to be a beautiful story. If you are interested, contact Herb: herbwittow@aol.com.

We are living in an era when we lose some wonderful classmates. A recent case in point is **Peter Ehrenhaft.** Peter was an outstanding member of our class and he will be missed by many classmates. His background and achievements were listed in the Summer 2013 *CCT* Obituaries (college.columbia.edu/cct/summer13/obituaries).

I hope that our class members stay well and look forward to our 60th reunion. Thank heavens for our class president, **Bernd Brecher,** who is working on the planning and could use help. If you want to be involved, contact him (brecher services@aol.com or 914-961-4101) or one of the Alumni Office staff members listed at the top of the column. Otherwise, be sure to save the date!

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As you might have guessed by now, Columbia is an institution that takes the lead in many areas, ranging from dealing with its alumni to getting involved in new ventures. The school is still exploring the Online Learning Initiative plus it is building up its Global Centers. Columbia is definitely a force in international education. All this became evident in a special panel discussion in early June, when deans and faculty spoke at the Columbia Alumni Center to an overflow crowd.

The tours through the Alumni Travel Study Program, which have been second to none, continue into the late fall. In early October will be "Undiscovered Greek Islands," a cruise through the Aegean Sea; "China, Tibet & the Yangtze River"; and "Where Legends Were Born: An Exploration of Crete, Santorini & the Peloponnese." This is good stuff.

Closer to home base, the Admissions Office is prepared for the onslaught of applications to the College and Engineering. One key element of this process is the Alumni Representative Committee, for which alumni like our own **Larry Balfus** interview applicants. Larry is chair of the Nassau County ARC. All alumni should take advantage of this opportunity to meet prospective students and see firsthand the quality of the applicants.

From near and not so near, many '55ers attended the last supper of the season before we broke for summer recess in June. **Don Laufer** made the usual arrangements with **Alfred Gollomp,** who came into Manhattan from the borough that houses the Barclays Center (this is where the men's basketball team will play St. John's in late December). **Dick Kuhn** was there (without

the Vagabonds and **Nick Tavuchis,** who lives in Canada, and **Tony Palladino,** who's in Florida). Others who made an appearance were **Bob Brown; Jeff Broido,** in from San Diego (without the rest of the Pony Ballet and **Dave Stevens,** who resides in Philadelphia); **Bill Epstein,** who has moved to another abode in Manhattan; **Al Martz** and **Alan Hoffman,** both from New Jersey; **Herb Cohen,** from Westchester; and **Ron Spitz** and **Allen Hyman** (who is starting to think about the 60th). **Anthony Viscusi, Peter Pressman, Stanley Zinberg** and **Aaron Hamburger** sent regrets.

It should be noted that **Lew Banci**'s photo was placed strategically in the *History of the Varsity Show,* a terrific book that goes way, way back. The tradition goes on.

Jim Berick, who has been doing a lot of exercising lately, recently met with the dean (Valentini, that is) in Florida. It looks like one of the road trips coming up for the dean will be a visit to Cleveland. Sounds like a plan. Jim rotates between Florida and Cleveland, among other places throughout the year.

We heard from **Harold Kushner** and exchanged some thoughts about the late Peter Kenen '54. As (almost) everyone knows, the baseball team won the Ivy League title this past year and scared some big-name schools in the NCAA tournament. **Jack Freeman, Ron McPhee, John Naley, Jud Maze** and **Beryl Nusbaum** should all be proud of the boys in blue.

Things are going well with **Chuck Garrison,** who makes Valley Cottage, N.Y., his home. We are waiting for the latest installment in **Jack Stuppin**'s paintings collection. Jack, as some may recall, rummages on the West Coast. With so many people running for the mayorship of New York City, it is surprising that some of the candidates haven't asked **Richard Ravitch** for advice. Who knows?

Another West Coast classmate is **Stanley Lubman,** who still gives lectures, talks and other things. Stanley is terrific at what he does. **Berish Strauch,** in Westchester, is still plying his trade, as is **Steve Rabin** in Manhattan. (Different trade, however.) We hope to see them at our reunion in less than two years. No excuses. [Editor's note: Save the date — Thursday, May 28–Sunday, May 31, 2015.]

Lew Mendelson plans to be there. He's still in Washington, D.C., doing good for all.

A sad note to report — **Gerry Pomper** let us know that his wife, Marlene "Mickey" Pomper, an integral part of our class, passed away recently.

Stalwart members of the wondrous class of 1955.

It's less than two years until we reach another milestone — our 60th.

Great things are happening. Get set for 2015.

It's going to be a reunion better than ever.

Love to all! Everywhere!

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The 2012–13 College year ended with two events that Class of 1956 members participate in with regularity. The first was Class Day on May 21. In attendance and marching in the 10th annual Alumni Parade of Classes were **Danny Link, Len Wolfe, Ron Kapon** and myself. This is both a privilege and an experience that I recommend to all class members. **Ron Kapon,** who had an unfortunate fall last year before the march, was in good form as he joined in carrying our Class of 1956 banner. We all enjoyed the good weather (a little hot but definitely better than what the weather bureau had predicted). When you march down College Walk to the cheers of almost 1,200 graduating seniors, it makes you feel young again as well as inspired by the enthusiasm and diversity of the graduates. The Class Day keynote speaker was Terrence McNally '60, the well-known playwright. In his talk, McNally relived his days at Columbia, from the time he moved in to the dorms and the surprise of sharing a room with an engineering major ("What the hell was that all about? I thought young men went to college to become great writers") to relating how the experiences of attending a college in the City of New York affected and shaped his adult life.

The second event was Dean's Day, held during Alumni Reunion Weekend on June 1 and attended by **Jordan Bonfonte; Bob Siroty; Peter Klein; Stan Soren** and his wife, Ruth; **John Censor** and myself. In addition to listening to lectures by some of the most illustrious of Columbia professors and alumni, it gave us a chance to visit and exchange news with classmates over breakfast and lunch. Dean James J. Valentini spoke at Saturday's breakfast and shared an outline on Manhattanville and how it relates to the College. Presumably, there will be more housing for Columbia students as well as graduate research facilities that will enhance undergraduate education through availability of graduate study courses to College undergraduates. [Editor's note: Also, when graduate schools relocate to Manhattanville, it is expected to free up space on Morningside Heights for the Arts & Sciences and thus benefit undergraduates.]

The lectures included one given by Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, '76L. Interestingly, when asked by Dean Valentini about his more memorable experiences in the College, he said that one of his most satisfying occurred as a lightweight football player, when he caught a pass and ran into the end zone against Penn. As a member of our lightweight football team, I can attest to the positive experience that I had with teammates including **Jordan Bonfonte; Larry Cohn; Bob Lauterborn;** my brother, **Maurice Easton;** and many others. That experience, as Holder also related, turned many "city kids" into teammates and solidified our bond at Columbia.

As always, the other topics at Dean's Day were interesting and demonstrated the talent of the Columbia faculty. Stan and Ruth reported that the morning lecture by biology professor Stuart Firestein was most brilliant and funny; he addressed how ignorance and uncertainty in the sciences, in particular, can lead to increased scientific discovery and illumination. Professor Firestein was a recipient of a 2013 Great Teacher Award at the Society of Columbia Graduates luncheon that followed at Low Library and which, as Stan noted, was well deserved. There were actually two lunches, one at Low in connection with the society's awards and the other on College Walk (a barbecue) that most of our classmates attended. I guess Columbia wanted to make sure its graduates had enough lunch locations.

Alan Press '56 recently returned from two weeks in North Korea and has written a lengthy article on his trip.

The afternoon lecture I attended was given by comparative literature professor Julie Crawford, who was equally brilliant in discussing the dramatic historical and political implications of Shakespeare's *King Lear.* Her lecture was a trip into the world of 17th-century Shakespeare and how theatre interacted with politics at that time.

It should be added that our attendance this year was reduced by the fact that notice of Dean's Day to non-reunion classes was never sent by snail mail. Note to the Alumni Office: Some of us are too "old" to rely strictly on email. And we still like to open letters. As I have said, the food at all recent Columbia events has greatly improved. We can only look forward to more of the same as we plan for our 60th reunion.

Now for the class news: In line with the sentiment that "It's a time in our lives to move or downsize, and the retirement home is looking better," **Bob Siroty** and his wife, Margo, have sold their Randolph, N.J., residence of 40-plus years.

"I couldn't believe it was on the market for only a week," Bob said. They are moving into a retirement community in Somerset, N.J., in a townhouse community where all ground and structural matters are provided for. Of course, the master bedroom will be on the ground level in case of any decreased mobility in the next 20 years. Now for the fun part: In getting their possessions (junk) sold, they discovered Margo's grandfather's diploma, dated June 12, 1901, from Columbia College, granting the degree of bachelor of laws. This diploma on parchment will be donated to the Law School archives by Bob's grandson. As Bob tells it, aside from his son likening the move to killing their longtime family dog, the transition went rather smoothly.

Mark Novick, one of our class' practicing psychiatrists, is busy planning his older daughter's fall wedding. His experience should help us in planning our 60th reunion.

John Censor is repositioning his company of 23 years, PCI Global, based in New Jersey and a provider of management training to Global 500 Companies using business games he developed. This method, according to John, both accelerates and gives participants a more complete learning experience.

Good luck to John.

On the travel front, **Alan Press,** who has traveled to more unusual places than any other classmate (write to me if I am wrong) recently returned from two weeks in North Korea. You may ask, "Who wants to visit North Korea?" Well, Alan has written a lengthy article on his trip, which I plan to have presented with pictures at one of our fall class lunches. Hope many of you will be able to attend.

Also, as you may know, my wife, Elke, and I are "Mexican-files," having invested enough of our retirement savings in resort Mexican timeshares that we work hard to use every week available to us. At this point, we own units equal to the space we have in our

residence in New Jersey, so we have enough leisure space to live in whether the grandkids want to come or not. We do enjoy the sun, golf and good weather of our Mexican vacations (approximately four per year). This January, we will host **Danny Link** and his wife, Elinor, in Puerto Vallarta.

Our first summer class luncheon was held at **Danny Link**'s country club, Bonnie Briar, on June 20. Attendees were the usual suspects. Al **Broadwin** and **Bob Siroty** were the luncheon attendees and **Jack Katz, Mark Novick** and **Jerry Fine** were the tennis-playing attendees. I'll say that the tennis was at a high level (for our age group, that is; forget Wimbledon and the U.S. Open). But most of all, it's a lot of fun. Summer lunches are held at Danny's club in Larchmont (what better way to get out of the city?) and fall lunches will start in October at Faculty House and the Columbia University Club of New York. Please contact me via email if you are not on my class notification list and would like to join us.

A quick report on class fundraising for the fiscal 2013 year, which ended June 20: We met all of our class fundraising goals, so thanks to all classmates who contributed. As a Class Agent, together with **Danny Link, Stanley Soren** and **Al Franco '56E,** I can only encourage you all to continue your generosity. I am also class representative for Planned Giving. If this type of giving, which includes your will, investment, tax situation and financial planning, is something you would like to explore, please email me and I will put you in touch with the proper representative in the Alumni Office who can provide additional information. Think "a legacy to Columbia will be a good thing."

Again, please let me or **Lou Hemmerdinger** (lhemmer@aol.com) know of any news that you would like to share in Class Notes. Also if you have changed your email address, postal address or phone number, please inform the *CCT* staff at college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus; this is part of our mission to connect all class members with our activities.

I trust that as Columbia students begin their academic year, you had an enjoyable summer and that you stay healthy and wise.

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Edward Alexander writes from Seattle: "Because decades ago I failed in the parental duty to hire skywriters to inscribe our kids' SAT scores in the heavens, I'd like now to make amends. Our daughter Rebecca has been all of the following: Hebrew teacher, Judaica librarian, artist, botanist and poet. Her artwork has appeared in the journals *Bridges* and *Judaism*. Her best-known publication is *Alef is Silent: A Hebrew Alphabet*. It was praised by writer Cynthia Ozick for 'bringing to mind those traditional Victorian alphabet books, with their lovely tone of entering the child's world.' Rebecca also has published several botanical articles in the *Washington Park Arboretum Bulletin*. Her most recent publication is *Raising Gladioli in Peshawar*, a poem occasioned by the barbaric Woolwich murder in London. It appears in the July 2013 issue of the British monthly *Standpoint*.

"My wife, Leah, and I have not escaped the wounds inflicted upon those who pass their allotted biblical threescore and ten, but we soldier on."

Bob Alter gave a presentation of his latest book, *Ancient Israel, The Former Prophets, Joshua, Judges, Samuel, and Kings*, at the 92nd Street Y on May 13. Irish poet Seamus Heaney, a member of the Belfast Group at Queen's University and a recipient of a Nobel Prize in literature (1995), has called Bob's work "a godsend — immediately readable, immensely learned, an education and a restitution."

Bob is professor emeritus of Hebrew and comparative literature at UC Berkeley and also a professor in the graduate school there; he still teaches and works with graduate students. He has been teaching at UC Berkeley since 1967 and is working on translating a large volume of Yehuda Amichai's poetry.

Bob earned master's (1958) and doctoral (1962) degrees from Harvard in comparative literature. His career began as a writer at *Commentary Magazine*, where for many years he was a contributing editor. He has written 23 books and most recently has been noted for his translation of sections of the Bible. His Wikipedia page lists six of his translations of the Hebrew Bible as well as selections from his other works, references and external links. See also his professor web page at nes.berkeley.edu/Web_Alter/Alter.html. Bob lectures on topics ranging from biblical episodes to Kafka's modernism and Hebrew literature. The subjects of his writing are varied, including European novels from the 18th century to the present, contemporary American fiction and modern Hebrew literature.

Bob's honors and awards include the Kluge Scholars Council at the Library of Congress; president, Association of Literary Scholars, Critics and Writers; Guggenheim fellow, 1966 and 1978; fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (elected 1986); senior fellow of the National Endowment of the Humanities; fellow at the Institute of Advanced Studies of Jerusalem; Old Dominion Fellow at Princeton; editorial board, *Jewish Review of Books*; National Jewish Book Award for Jewish Thought; Robert Kirsch Award (*Los Angeles Times*) for lifetime contribution to American letters; and doctor of humanities, Yale (2010).

Ward Armstrong received the Utah Sports Hall of Fame Foundation Distinguished Service Award on March 19 in recognition and honor of a lifetime of "outstanding leadership and service in school, community, recreation and sports activities." The presentation was at the South Towne Expo Center in Sandy, Utah.

Ward has been involved with sports for much of his life. His family had a sporting goods business in Utah. At Ogden H.S., Ward was captain of the swimming team and co-captain of the football team.

At Columbia he was a member of the varsity swimming team and captain of the freshman swimming team. After stints with Kaiser Aluminum in St. Louis and Denver, he returned to Utah to enter the family business. He later was a school supply salesman for Wolves, Stevens & Brown and Universal Athletic, retiring in 1998.

Ward had a distinguished career as a volunteer in local and regional activities. He says, "I always felt that as a volunteer I could pay back to the various sports that had been so good to me. Virtually all of my work in athletics and shooting sports has been unpaid except for the great pleasure I obtained from working with coaches, athletes and gun enthusiasts in the Utah area.

"None of my volunteer work was as enjoyable as that with the Board of Directors of the Utah Sports Hall of Fame. It is a great organization with a great future." Ward served 14 years on that board, including two years as president.

Ward also was a volunteer official in the following sports: track and field (certified and worked as finish judge and clerk of course for 50 years; received the Utah High School Activities Association track coaches' award for volunteer service); cross country (served as finish chute judge at high school and college meets for more than 40 years); swimming (served more than 30 years as starter and finish judge for high school meets at the regional and state levels); wrestling (was head scorer for several state meets as well as three Big Sky championship meets); football (was certified high school official for Utah and Wyoming for five years); and baseball (served 40 years on the Utah High School All-Star Game Committee, including six years as chairman; received special recognition awards in 1994 and 2007).

In addition to sports activities, Ward served on the Salvation Army Board of Directors (1962–70, chairman 1966–68) and on the Board of Directors of the Utah Gun Collectors Association (1967–71). Upon retirement, Ward commenced being a volunteer docent at the Browning Firearms Museum, where he has logged more than 4,000 hours of volunteer service.

Marty Fisher writes, "We had a record (or near-record; no one keeps score) at our class luncheon on May 29. **Ed Weinstein** hosted us at the Columbia University Club of New York. The last luncheon had been scheduled for late October and was canceled on account of Hurricane Sandy. This might have engendered some pent-up demand for the informal good fellowship that these events encourage. Ed and I were joined by **Pete Anker, Stan Barnett, Art Bernstein, Larry Boes, Joe Diamond, Ted Dwyer, Joe Feldschuh, Jerry Finkel, Bob Flescher, Sal Franchino, Dave Kinne, Neil McLellan, Art Meyerson, Mark Stanton** and **Paul Zola.**

"Following are some random tidbits picked up between courses:

"Paul has moved to Stamford, Conn., where he practices mediation and arbitration. Stan made the longest trip to the lunch, from Rhode Island, where he is emeritus professor at the University of Rhode Island. Art Bernstein, who retired as a professor of computer science at Stony Brook, has developed the art and skill of a professional sculptor in Setauket on Long Island, where he resides.

"Dave enjoys his volunteer work as a docent at the Met. He and his wife, Kathleen, have retained their country home in Vermont. Ed and his wife, Sandra, divide their 'baby-sitting' time between their local son's children and their daughter's family in San Francisco.

What's Your Story?

Letting classmates know what's going on in your life is easier than ever. Send in your Class Notes!

ONLINE by clicking college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

EMAIL to the address at the top of your column.

MAIL to the address at the top of your column.

"There were no medical emergencies at the luncheon but if one had occurred, we had no fewer than a half-dozen qualified medics to take the call: Dwyer, Feldschuh, Finkel, Flescher, Kinne and Meyerson. This gave us a cozy sense of safety and security at our extremely sociable lunch."

Yours truly attended a special advance screening of the film *Joachim Prinz: I Shall Not Be Silent* at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., on May 22. It was followed by a panel discussion. The event was especially meaningful for me, as I well remember Rabbi Prinz's stirring declaration at the civil rights March on Washington on August 28, 1963, where I was on duty with the National Guard.

Rabbi Prinz, spiritual leader of the Jewish community of Berlin, was expelled from Nazi Germany for "speaking out against the systematic erosion of the civil rights of Jews by the Nazis." On arriving in the United States, where two years later he became rabbi of Temple B'nai Abraham in Livingston, N.J., "the struggles of disenfranchised African-Americans in the segregated South reminded him of his experiences in Germany." An organizer of the 1963 march, he stood with its other leaders, including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Whitney Young Jr., A. Philip Randolph, Roy Wilkins, Floyd McKissick and John Lewis. Just before King's "I Have a Dream" speech, Rabbi Prinz declared: "Bigotry and hatred are not the most urgent problem. The most urgent, the most disgraceful, the most shameful and the most tragic problem is silence."

Earlier in May, I was in Nashville for American Bar Association meetings and my older grand-nephew's graduation from Vanderbilt. Among other things I also visited the full-size reproduction of the Parthenon in Centennial Park. It was built as a temporary structure for the Tennessee Centennial Exposition of 1897; the city rebuilt it in 1931 as a permanent one. Inside is a 42-ft. replica of Phidias' statue of Athena. I found the effect of the statue's staring eyes eerie, to say the least; it reminded me of Gilbert & Sullivan's Princess Ida's invocation to Minerva: "Oh, goddess wise."

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What an excellent reunion! Our 55th spanned the warm, sunny, long weekend of May 30–June 2 and was attended by almost 60 classmates and, including their guests, more than 100 total participants. Our class activities began Friday night with a cocktail party and dinner in the Kellogg Center of the School of International and Public Affairs Building. The speaker, Peter Awn, dean of the School of General Studies, professor of religion and director of the Middle East Institute, talked about the Arab Spring, with particular attention to Syria, provoking a lively Q&A afterward.

On Saturday morning many classmates attended an all-class Dean's Day talk by Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, '76L, who shared fond reminiscences of his undergraduate days, offered advice on the value of public service and participated in another spirited Q&A.

After lunch, a packed room heard a panel discussion moderated by **Carl Stern** '59J, former Supreme Court reporter for NBC and now Emeritus Professor of Media and Public Affairs at The George Washington University. The panel members and their topics were as follows:

Mort Halperin, now a senior adviser to the Open Society Foundations on "North Korea: Should People in Seoul, South Korea, Be Worried?" (he thought probably not); **Bernie Nussbaum** on "Hillary: Will She or Won't She?" (we shall see …); **Larry Harris,** a lobbyist with the law firm of Patton Boggs, on "Congress: Is it Worse Than It Looks?" (yes, he says); **Morrie Amitay,** another longtime Washington insider and old Middle East hand, on "Where is the Middle East Headed?" (probably more chaos); and **Ernie Brod,** who leads the Business Intelligence Practice at Alvarez & Marsal, on "Can Financial Markets Be Trusted?" (no).

The afternoon's activities continued with affinity group receptions. Of particular interest was the NROTC reception, organized by **Stuart Huntington** and **Bob Jespersen** in recognition of NROTC's return to campus. Stuart won the (virtual) multi-generational prize; he was accompanied by his younger brother, Lee, daughter Meredith and granddaughter Samantha.

The class events concluded with our Saturday dinner in Low Library, at which **Bernie Nussbaum** announced that our Class Gift, far surpassing our original goal, had topped $400,000.

I am sorry to report the recent deaths of three classmates. **Myron Bander** '61 GSAS, a professor of physics and astronomy at UC Irvine, died on December 19, 2012, in Newport Beach, Calif. Myron was an NSF Postdoctoral Fellow at CERN (the European Laboratory for Nuclear Research), the University of Copenhagen and the University of Paris. He went to UC Irvine in 1966 and served two terms as physics department chair, was dean of the School of Physical Sciences and was on the American committee for the Board of Directors of the Weizmann Institute of Science. He is survived by his wife, Carol.

Leon Mir '59E died in Brookline, Mass., on February 23, 2013. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and earned his master's and doctoral degrees at MIT. At his death he had retired as v.p. for research at IONICS. He is survived by his wife, Judith; his children, Jonathan '98 Business and Lisa; and two grandchildren.

Warren Smith died in his hometown, Hampton Bays, N.Y., on January 20, 2013. After 30 years teaching in the East Meadow, N.Y., school district, he retired and became the owner of Lawnsmith's Landscaping and the Springville House, an operator of apartment buildings. As an undergraduate, he pitched on the Lion varsity baseball team and was president of Alpha Sigma Phi. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; his children, Karen, Joanne, Thomas and Susan; and eight grandchildren.

Also, if we may pay tribute to a non-classmate, sadly, Allan Gardner '59 died earlier this year. Allan was one of the key organizers of the annual Homecoming evening gathering, which began as a '58 *Spectator* event but grew gradually to include non-'58 and non-*Spectator* participants, making it a festive and always interesting event. Our ties with Allen go all the way back to when '58's *Spectator* managing board named him to our successor board. He was a good friend who faced down a lot of adversity in his last few years. We'll miss him, at Homecoming and always.

Back to happier news. **Ernie Brod**'s 75th birthday party, given by his wife, Ruthie, and his children, was quite a bash. Held at The Glasshouses in Chelsea, it featured a touching speech by his son, Jon; a song written and performed by his daughter Joanna; and a film created by his daughter Mara (a professional photographer), featuring Ernie's old Brighton Beach neighborhood. A dozen Columbians were in attendance, in addition to Ernie: Arnie Abrams '61 and his wife, Phyllis; **Peter Cohn** and his wife, Joan; **Barry Dickman** and his wife, Carol; **Joe Dorinson** and his wife, Eileen; **Peter Gruenberger** and his wife, Carin Lamm; Linda Lynn, widow of **Ted Lynn; Bernie Nussbaum** and his wife, Nancy Kuhn; **Howard Orlin** and his wife, Anita; **Shelly Raab** and his wife, Judy; **Bob Waldbaum** and his wife, Ruth; and **Mark Weiss** and his wife, Joan.

John Giorno was one of many poets who appeared at the New York Public Library's gathering to discuss the Spanish poet Federico García Lorca and to read from García Lorca's works. Garcfa Lorca, who wrote about his 1929–30 visit to NYC in his book, *Poet in New York*, was murdered by Franco's troops during the Spanish Civil War. García Lorca studied at GS, and his brother taught at Columbia during our school years.

Rick Brous, who along with **Paul Gomperz** founded the Columbia University Club of Northern New Jersey, now is a v.p. of the Columbia University Alumni Association of Southern California, proving, as Rick says, that his love for Columbia stretches from sea to shining sea. He adds that his daughter, Sharon Brous '95, '01 GSAS (whose husband, David J. Light '95, '02 Arts, has appeared in this column) was named by The Daily Beast as No. 1 among America's top 50 rabbis; she is the first woman so honored. [See *CCT* profile of Sharon, May 2005.]

Another '58 doctor has become an author. **Peter Cohn,** under the *nom de plume* of Alan N. Clifford, has recently produced his second novel. His first was *The Fatherland Files*. The newly published book, *Heart of Wisdom*, is about a survivor of the WWII Bataan Death March who becomes a renowned medical researcher only to run into scientific fraud in his department. Peter says the books were reviewed favorably, not only by *Publishers Weekly* but also by two noted literary critics: **Bob Levine** and **Bob Waldbaum!** [See Bookshelf.] Like so many '58 "retirees," Peter has kept his day job as a cardiologist at Stony Brook University Hospital, although only on a part-time basis. Incidentally, his pen name was borrowed from the names of his two sons. He and his wife, Joan, have four grandchildren and live in New York City.

Ed Feige, professor emeritus of economics at the University of Wisconsin, was featured in James Surowiecki's recent *The New Yorker* column "The Underground Recovery." Ed, a longtime maven on the underground economy, conducted a study showing that $2 trillion of income goes unreported annually. Ed and other experts point to the transition from regular paychecks to increasing part-time and casual work which, coupled with distrust of government, has pushed more people to work off the books. Ed's solution is a novel system: a single, minuscule tax on all transactions (purchases, sales, bank withdrawals, etc.) to replace the income, payroll, estate and all other taxes. Will it fly? We'll see …

Speaking of **Carl Stern,** his TV report — which aired on NBC in

1973 and uncovered the FBI's secret counterintelligence programs to harass and neutralize organizations and individuals whose political activities it deemed unwelcome — was selected by the Journalism School as one of "100 Great Stories" produced by its graduates during the past century. An exhibit about the story is on display at the Newseum in Washington, D.C. The Newseum recently placed Carl's 1965–1993 scripts in its permanent archives.

The class lunch is held on the second Wednesday of every month in the Grill Room of the Columbia University Club of New York, 15 W. 43rd St. The cost is $31 per person. Email **Art Radin** if you plan to attend, up to the day before: aradin@radinglass.com.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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We begin with a reminder that our 55th reunion is next spring, so be sure to save the date for Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1, 2014.

Morton Kleven is already thinking about the big weekend. He writes, "With our 55th reunion and my 75th birthday on the horizon, I felt the need to reflect on what Columbia has meant to me, the College's role in my subsequent career path, and the twists, turns and personal highlights of my professional life. Kierkegaard said that life is lived forward but understood backward. When I think back to my years at Columbia, I remember, of course, the fantastic courses and teachers, particularly Jim Shenton '49, '54 GSAS' seminar on Reconstruction and the seminar in Oriental Humanities taught by professors Arthur Danto '53 and Wm. Theodore 'Ted' de Bary '41, '53 GSAS. As much as I value the critical thinking skills that Columbia instilled in me and believe that Columbia in great part made me who I am today, I also value the friendships I formed there. Fifty-five years later, I am still in touch with **Bennet Silverman, Isser Woloch, Harvey Leifert, Ken Scheffel** and **Jerry Wacks,** even though Harvey is the only one who lives nearby in the Washington, D.C., area, my home for the past 40 years.

"As for my professional life, I am a bit bemused as to how it turned out. While in college I intended to become a professor of American history; however, a class with Robert V. Rimini at Columbia Graduate Faculties [now GSAS] showed me that I would have difficulty getting a position at a first-rate university. I received a B+ in the class, which is roughly equivalent to a D in an undergraduate course. So, the next semester, I tried my hand at constitutional law with Gerald Gunther '50 GSAS at the Law School, receiving an A-. Well, I thought this was great; I'd become a lawyer. Being the son of an immigrant plumber from the far reaches of Brooklyn, I was one of the few Jews in NYC who didn't know what lawyers actually did. I didn't know that constitutional law was to the practice of law what filet mignon was to a McDonald's hamburger.

"Looking back on my career, I think the law was a good fit for me and suited to my talents, later on even giving me a chance to fulfill my interest in teaching. After graduating from law school, I bounced around from a Wall Street law firm to a general counsel position at a large privately held firm, to a specialty securities law firm, and then to a real estate developer in the D.C. area, where, as general counsel, I took the firm public. In 1974, with the passage of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), I landed in the Office of the Solicitor at the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), as counsel for fiduciary responsibility; I personally drafted or supervised the drafting of the seminal fiduciary regulations to implement the new law, with a staff that first year of three attorneys straight out of law school. Those regulations have stood the test of time, and have remained virtually unchanged for nearly 40 years.

"I expected to remain just a few years in government service and then return to private practice. But fate intervened in the form of a major illness for my daughter. There was no Obamacare, so I continued at DOL because our family needed the government's health benefits, unavailable in a private firm because of my daughter's pre-existing condition. In the Office of the Solicitor, in addition to the fiduciary regulations, I worked on the agreements that transferred management of the [then-named] Central States Teamsters Pension, Health and Welfare Funds to independent investment managers. Later, in a promotion to senior policy adviser to the assistant secretary, I was given the task of leading the department's investigation into the investments made by the trustees of those funds before their removal as managers. A prior investigation, which had failed, had been subject to intense criticism from Congress. But my investigation recovered $21.5 million for the plan participants, though it took many years, without any congressional oversight hearings.

"My job in government also gave me the opportunity to teach ERISA law. I lectured extensively for the American Bar Association on the department's regulations and created the first course in the country on the labor aspects of ERISA at Georgetown Law, where I was an adjunct professor for many years. My years in government were the most fulfilling and intellectually stimulating of my career. Upon my retirement in 2008, the editor of *Pensions & Investments* wrote the article 'The Man Who Was ERISA,' describing the impact I had on the interpretation of the law.

"When I retired, I went back to my first passions: politics and civil rights. Living in Manhattan in the 1960s I had been active in local democratic politics in Greenwich Village, where I was a member of Community Planning Board No. 2 and where I revived a defunct insurgent Reform Democratic Club, the Downtown Independent Democrats. I also ran parts of a successful State Assembly campaign and an unsuccessful State Senate campaign. I was most proud of being an attorney when I volunteered for several weeks in Mississippi during the Freedom Summer of 1964 under the auspices of JFK's Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. Later, as a civil servant, I was barred from participating in these activities. But retirement in 2008 gave me an opportunity to go back to those loves. I volunteered in the Obama campaigns in 2008 and 2012 in Richmond, Va., registering voters on college campuses, which I enjoyed tremendously.

"By the time this is published, my wife, Carla, and I will have returned from a trip to Italy, where we rented a villa outside Siena with our children, Miriam and David, their spouses and our three grandchildren, all in celebration of our 50th wedding anniversary."

John Clubbe writes, "Norton is giving me a contract for my Beethoven study, provisionally titled *Beethoven: The Relentless Revolutionary.*" By now, he should have returned from a month in Germany doing Beethoven work.

Allen D. Klein writes, "After 35 years as a v.p. of Schlumberger, I am now engaged in international tax consulting. My wife, Carol, and I divide our time among Stamford, Conn., Delray Beach, Fla., and Washington, D.C., where our three grandchildren live with their parents — Todd Stern, who is a special envoy for climate change with the Department of State, and Jennifer Klein, who works for Hillary Clinton."

Michael J. Tannenbaum reports, "My book, *High p_T Physics in the Heavy Ion Era,* co-authored with Jan Rak, was published in June. In conjunction, I gave a new book presentation at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, on June 13. I work full-time and remain productive, including several talks per year at international meetings."

Ray LaRaja writes, "This year has been quite significant for me. I reached 75 years on this earth and recently helped my bride enjoy her 75th as well! She has been a sustaining joy and succor for me and our three children and grandchildren.

"It has been four years since I entered the world of retirement and, to be honest, I don't miss my 40 years in surgery and teaching students and surgical residents at all — enough is enough! I did several years of volunteer work in a Meals on Wheels program and as a tutor in an English as a Second Language program before my hip and knee arthritis became severe enough that it precluded my continuing these activities (couldn't get in and out of cars).

"In early June I attended a reunion of the Vietnam 312th Evacuation Hospital, where I was stationed in 1968–69 at a place called Chu Lai, as a busy trauma surgeon operating on our wounded GIs. The reunion was held in Greensboro/Winston Salem, N.C.

"I have been asked to serve on the committee for our 55th College reunion, and I have gladly accepted. Speaking of reunions, I also recently attended the 50th for my NYU medical school class."

Frank Wilson was in Washing-

Frank Wilson '59 was the Senior Goldman Sachs Fellow at the Jerome and Dorothy Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation of the National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution.

ton, D.C., as the Senior Goldman Sachs Fellow at the Jerome and Dorothy Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation of the National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution. He says he had a ball, including at a gathering with **Dan Ein, Ben Huberman** and **Sam Tindall.**

David B. Smith reports, "[At this writing, my wife,] Helen, and I are soon to leave Turkey, where we have spent a delightful six weeks, and head for the Outer Hebrides. We'll spend three weeks there in a tiny village, Tolsta Chaolais, visiting friends and enjoying the elemental landscape. Then, we're off to the Orkney Islands until mid-September.

"During August, Helen once again will work on a fascinating archaeological site, the Ness of Brodgar. Situated between two large stone circles, the Ness has revealed a walled ceremonial compound with more than 12 stone structures, all older than Stonehenge. While Helen is digging, I'll be writing. I recently published an article on the Stromness Museum in the *Journal of Museum Ethnography*.

"Last winter, we brought Nick Card, the archaeologist in charge of the Ness, to Washington, D.C., where, speaking at several venues, he introduced Americans to new finds, including before an audience of 500 at the Smithsonian.

"After the Orkney Islands, we'll spend a month in Cabrerets, in the Midi-Pyrénnées, in a small house set along the Célé River. There, there is a splendid paleolithic cave with wonderful paintings called Peche Merle. … We'll finish our wanderings in Venice and return to Washington in early November. I hope all our classmates had as wonderful a summer as we did."

Richard Engelman shares this story: "My wife, Jane, and I were on a three-week cruise from Buenos Aires to Rio with two couples from our community of Longmeadow in Western Massachusetts, and the cruise was nearing its end. We went to the dining room and were asked if we would sit at a table for eight with another couple who had been seated a short while before. We naturally agreed and found ourselves with a gentleman who had grown up in Brooklyn and attended Midwood H.S. two years ahead of my wife. When asked where he had gone to college, he said Columbia. My wife realized that he would be in my class and, after exchanging last names, we realized we had been roommates during senior year. This was **Ira Silberman,** and we suddenly were hugging, not having seen or spoken to each other in 54 years. He is in Philadelphia and I am in Springfield. We were both at our 50th reunion and did not see one another at that time. One immediately recognizes how small a world we live in."

Allen Rosenshine writes, "Having been forbidden by my wife from playing tennis due to my second (thankfully successful) back surgery, she permits me to continue skiing, if not as aggressively as in years past (maybe she's trying to get rid of me!). We spend the winters in Park City, Utah, where we have a condo in Deer Valley; most of the summer months in Lyme, Conn.; and the rest of the time traveling or in our downsized apartment in Manhattan. My daughter graduated from Fordham School of Law in May, which hopefully ends the stream of tuition checks associated with my four children, but not those for my grandchildren in private school, which now costs an order of significant magnitude more than what we paid at Columbia.

"I keep my mind from atrophy in retirement by doing marketing consulting for a variety of organizations, primary among them an anti-drug effort I helped found in 1986 and The Nature Conservancy, for which I am a Connecticut trustee. Beyond that, I look forward to seeing our classmates next year. Having served as chairman of herding cats for our 50th reunion, however, I will pass on any responsibility other than attending our 55th. Hope to see you there."

Bill Tanenbaum '60 returned in May from a visit to Jerusalem, Bucharest, the Normandy beaches and Paris, a trip where he often walked 4–6 miles a day.

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Terrence McNally, winner of four Tony Awards and an Emmy Award, among a plethora of honors and recognition as one of America's great playwrights, was the keynote speaker at Class Day on May 21. Addressing the Class of 2013 on South Lawn, Terrence allowed as how he was in "an unfamiliar situation." He continued, "Hav[ing] spent a lifetime putting words into the mouths of characters I have created … standing here this morning, the words and voice are my own and the character is me. … I'm used to standing in the dark at the back of a theatre listening to actors tell you what's on my mind."

Then, crying "curtain up," Terrence brilliantly delivered his reminiscences, his observations and his advice to the graduating class. He spoke rhapsodically of the educational opportunity he felt privileged to receive at Columbia. "Contemporary Civilization: The most perfect curriculum ever devised. The Humanities: Core courses taught by brilliant professors. I'm not smarter than everyone I know but I do think I got a superior education to everyone I know. My Harvard and Yale friends would agree."

And he spoke with more than equal enthusiasm of the cultural wonders of New York to which he was then exposed. His first night as a freshman was spent sitting on the sidewalk outside the darkened Mark Hellinger Theatre, waiting for the line to form the next morning to purchase a standing-room-only ticket to see *My Fair Lady.* "It would be like that for the next four years. If it was Columbia versus the city, the city and what it had to offer frequently won."

He spoke poignantly about his experiences as a gay man in the '50s. "It was an easy time to be a middle-class, white male at a prestigious university. What wasn't easy was to be gay at one. This was more than a decade before Stonewall. I was out but I felt alone."

He spoke with introspection. "I got through my four years despite the distractions, in large measure and thanks to Mrs. McElroy, my public high school teacher, who taught us how to organize our thoughts and put them down on paper in a cohesive essay. If you can write, you can get away with murder. The difficulty comes when you get good at being glib instead of telling the truth, which is the goal of any artist. Columbia taught me to respect the truth but it didn't teach me how to write the truth. That's where the writer's blocks and the demons arise to confront us. It will always be hard to be truthful in our work but it's the only thing that ultimately matters in the arts and, finally, our lives. Is it honest?"

As for advice, Terrence's remarks were blissfully brief: "Be nicer to people" and "wash your hands more frequently" are fairly representative of the bons mots he imparted to the graduates to satisfy the obligation that befalls the honor of being selected as the Class Day keynoter.

[Editor's note: Read McNally's full speech here: college.columbia.edu/terrencemcnally.]

Joe Giacalone writes that 2012 was a golden year, with four 50th milestones for him and his wife, Marianne: "In May, the occasion was the 50th year of earning my M.B.A. from St. John's University. In August, St. John's recognized my 50 years as a member of its full-time faculty. Late September marked the 50-year celebration of my wife's graduation from nursing school at Queens Hospital Center. Twenty-six of her classmates (out of a class of about 52) came to Queens from 13 states for the event. Finally, on December 29, we celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary with 80 family members and friends. Marianne decorated this year's Christmas tree with gold ornaments and a big '50' tree-topper.

"I am now in my 51st year of teaching economics at St. John's; I write one or two papers a year. Most recently, I published an article on the rare earth minerals market and delivered a paper on the private spaceflight industry. I lean toward microeconomic industry studies and have written articles on robotics, health care, medical tourism, viatical settlements and the market for luxury goods and casino gaming in Macao as well as a book on the nursing home industry. As is evident, my research tastes are eclectic.

"We are not world travelers like some of our classmates. However, with two children and three grandchildren in Las Vegas, we venture there a few times each year. As gamblers, however, we are pitiful. We never win but we don't lose much either. Two years ago, we took a 20-person family contingent on a Disney cruise to the Bahamas. Marianne and I were to cruise to Bermuda in June. Our two Long Island children and several grandkids keep us active close to our home in Flushing, Queens. A vacation cottage in Sussex County, N.J., gives us another regular getaway option.

"I have a little email contact with my Alpha Chi Rho fraternity brothers **Andy Kubishen** in Virginia and **Frank Zmorzenski** in Florida. Both were career naval officers out of Columbia's ROTC program. Andy and Frank are close friends and visit each other on a regular basis. Andy has become a prolific cyclist and kayaker and participates in events up and down the eastern seaboard."

The peripatetic **Bill Tanenbaum** returned in May from a visit to Jerusalem, Bucharest, the Normandy beaches and Paris, a trip where he often walked 4–6 miles a day. While in Jerusalem he went sightseeing with **Joel Levine** and Joel's wife, Zehavit, who live in Samara, Israel. The Normandy beaches were visited on V-E Day, May 8. Bill took note of the 9,378 graves at the

Normandy American Cemetery in Colleville-sur-Mer; most of those buried there were killed on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

There are 185 known moons of the planets and dwarf planets in our solar system. In his third astronomy book in as many years, *Moons of the Solar System*, **Tom Hamilton** covers them all. To give you a taste, here is one piece of information: As the moon travels around Earth, we can observe its several phases, which take an average of 29.53 days to complete. The phases include the new moon, the waxing crescent, the first quarter, the waxing gibbous, the full moon, the third or last quarter moon, and the waning crescent. So when do we see the half moon? "The only Half Moon," Tom informs us, "was Henry Hudson's ship; there is no lunar phase with that name." The names of the moons and their meanings, discoverers, discovery dates, orbits, sizes, geology and much else can be found in Tom's book.

Peter Phillipes sends greetings from retirement in Florida: "My wife, Suzy, and I have lived in Venice, Fla., for more than seven years and have never questioned our decision to leave the cold weather behind. We also have become active in the community, enjoying a remarkable range of cultural activities (the Sarasota area offers opera, two symphony orchestras, five theatre companies and a variety of individual performers and touring Broadway shows, as well as the Ringling Museum Complex) and working with several local civic organizations. I am co-president of the Jewish Congregation of Venice, program chair for the Columbia University Club of Sarasota, parliamentarian of the board of directors of the Sarasota Opera Guild and secretary/treasurer of the Venetian Golf & River Club Property Owners Association.

"We also have engaged in some exciting foreign travel, including trips to South America and the Antarctic in 2009, the Far East in 2010, Israel and Jordan in 2011, the Caribbean in 2012 and the British Isles this year. In 2014, we will sail on the new *Regal Princess* for a month in the Mediterranean and across the Atlantic back to Florida.

"Our family is spread across the country. Daughter Debra and her family live in Irvington, N.Y., with one son away at college in California. Son David and his family live in Emmaus, Pa., with one son a junior at Temple and another entering Widener in the fall. Son Larry and his family live in Marin County, Calif. With three grandsons turning 20 this year, two turning 18 and our only granddaughter 14, we are accepting the fact that we are getting older and look forward to meeting the next generation when it arrives.

"In June, we celebrated our 54th wedding anniversary and 53 years since the Class of 1960 graduated from the College. We continue to be amazed at how long it has been and how much we have seen along the way."

Two sad notes: **Norman Hildesheim** died peacefully in his home in Fairfield, Conn., on March 20. His obituaries acknowledge his accomplishments as an architect and international hotel developer. He earned his degree in architecture at Harvard. He designed and developed hotels for InterContinental Hotels Group and Bechtel Corp.'s International Division, and he was a partner with Hotel Development Associates. He rowed lightweight crew at Columbia and later coached the Columbia lightweights, a position he balanced with an assignment teaching a course in architecture at Harvard; he also was the freelance crew correspondent for *The New York Times*, and a lifeguard at Jennings Beach in Fairfield each summer for some 54 years. But that is only a beginning in describing Norman. He was an original; or perhaps he was a gentleman from an earlier era. He lived his life with an easy grace and a driving abundance of energy. If those qualities seem in conflict, Norman managed them in splendid harmony. He carried himself with an elegant self-confidence that was disarming. The legacy of stories he leaves behind are legendary.

There was, for example, the evening when Norman, on 42nd Street, spotted a familiar chauffeured limousine with a recognizable license plate. When a red light stopped traffic Norman strode to the vehicle and inquired whether the occupant was headed for Morningside Heights. Though he did not know Norman at all, the occupant acknowledged that to be his destination, and so Norman got himself invited to return to campus in style, riding beside a somewhat bewildered Grayson Kirk (president of the University from 1953–68).

When we were undergraduates, *The New York Times* reported crew races with greater interest than it covered basketball or professional football, so much so that for each race that the newspaper followed, it listed the names of the oarsmen in each competing shell. Eventually that ended, much to Norman's consternation. Norman, so the story goes, walked into publisher Arthur Sulzberger '51's office and expressed his displeasure with the inadequacy of coverage, whereupon Sulzberger offered Norman a byline as an unpaid correspondent. Norman seized the offer and reported on crew races worldwide, including the Henley Royal Regatta.

Then there is the story of his revival of *The Varsity Show* musical starring athletes in drag, *Nothing Sacred*, which he wrote with **Frank Decker** (now deceased). Richard Rodgers '23 and Oscar Hammerstein II (Class of 1916) were in the audience on opening night and wanted to bring the show to Broadway. Alas, that did not come to pass. And the stories go on. But our space is too limited.

Norman was delightful company, dedicated to a legion of friends who returned his warmth and friendship and will remember him fondly. Condolences to the vast circle of those he befriended and to his adopted son, David Kardos.

We received late word that **David S. David** '64 P&S died at his home in Beverly Hills on April 19. He was a nephrologist and an attending physician at NewYork Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center. He moved to Los Angeles, where he was a nephrologist and internist in private practice and a clinical professor of medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. We send our condolences to David's wife, Vera; daughter, Lisa; son, Eric; and three grandchildren.

Keep writing and be well.

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Barry McCallion and Joanne Canary were in southern Africa with the Alumni Travel Study Program in May and early June. Their previous plans to visit the Galápagos Islands and Machu Picchu were somehow sidetracked but with luck those destinations await them.

Barry continues to work on the series of unique, so-called artist's books he began several years ago. The books are represented by Priscilla Juvelis, Inc., and several examples were on view at The New York Antiquarian Book Fair at the Park Avenue Armory Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America last spring.

Dr. **Ted Stanley** accepted an invitation to join the Board of Directors of a public company called INSYS Therapeutics, which sells pain relief products. Ted now is on the board of directors of seven private and two public companies. In addition, this past spring he was awarded The Utah Governor's Medal for Science and Technology for his innovations.

Richard Zamoff writes that the staff at The George Washington University's Jackie Robinson Project has completed a children's book. Titled *Jackie Robinson: More Than a Baseball Player, A Hero*, the book includes important information on Robinson's life after baseball and the impact he made as an informal civil rights leader (and is quite topical in light of the recent release of the Robinson biopic *42*). The book has been translated into Spanish. The Jackie Robinson Project staff is seeking publication options and would be interested in suggestions. Richard, an associate professor of sociology at GW, can be reached at 202-994-6345 or rbzamoff@gwu.edu.

Jeff Rudell updated his website, scubadivechamber.com, and added a link to a copy of his book *Bends Explained: How to Plan a Safe Dive*. He also hosted a video on Twitter (@effr) explaining the Air France flight 447 crash.

Bob Salman was one of six inaugural inductees on June 13 into the Monmouth County Democrats Hall of Fame. Former Gov. James Florio was the evening's guest speaker. Bob's plaque was presented to him by the mayor of his town, Jonathan Hornik. Three days later, on June 16, Bob and his wife, Reva, celebrated their 50th anniversary. Bob continues to be active in the practice of law with the Wall Street/New Jersey law firm of LaRocca Hornik Rosen Greenberg & Blaha (where I am special counsel).

Gene Milone's term as president of Division B Commission 25 on Astronomical Photometry and Polarimetry of the International Astronomical Union has ended, and he was pleased that a resolution on guidelines for optical and infrared passbands was passed by the IAU at its General Assembly in Beijing at the end of August 2012. The commission had been trying to get such a resolution passed for 60 years, so he regarded this as a feather in the old cap!

Gene also noted the imminent availability of the second edition of his two-volume work *Solar System Astrophysics: Planetary Atmospheres and the Outer Solar System*, co-authored with William J.F. Wilson and for which he uses the formal name Eugene F. Milone. Gene noted it was quite a challenge to keep up with the burgeoning research on both the solar and extra-solar systems, the latter now occupying a significant portion of the second volume, but he believes they were successful.

I noted a number of inoperable email addresses in my recent request for updates. If you have changed your email address or are not receiving requests for Class Notes from me, please provide me with your current information. My

email address is listed at the top of the column. Thank you in advance.

[Editor's note: Please also send your new information to *CCT* so we may update the College's records: college.columbia.edu/cct/update_contact_info, cct@columbia.edu or 212-851-7852.]

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From Fethiye, Turkey, a seacoast town on the Mediterranean, **Hilmi Toros** '63J writes that he spends his time "sailing and writing, if not traveling." Hilmi retired early, twice. First, from the Associated Press, where he was a reporter, editor and correspondent in its Miami, New York, United Nations and Rome bureaus, and then as chief of press operations with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome. He enjoys being in contact with classmates through email (wordsmithsailor@hotmail.com) or Facebook.

From Durham, N.C., former class president **John Garman** recently traveled for a month to Venice, Florence and Rome and "actually saw what we only read about in Art Humanities. Four thousand photos later, I'm still trying to understand and absorb it!" John keeps in contact with **Dick McKenna, Richard Harbison** and **Joe Leska,** who, he reports, "are all healthy and living life to its fullest." John and his wife have five grandchildren between 2 and 14 who "are growing up fast. What more could one ask for?"

Andrew Jampoler's fifth book, *Congo: The Miserable Expeditions and Dreadful Death of Lt. Emory Taunt, USN*, has been published. He says, "It is the sad story of the United States and the Congo during the last decades of the 19th century. I tell the story as a biography of the first resident American diplomat in Equatorial West Africa, Emory Taunt. He died on the river in January 1891."

I know Andrew would be especially pleased if his classmates would help him tell readers about his book. Publishers increasingly leave the marketing of their publications to their authors. You may reach Andrew at jampoler@earthlink.net.

Meanwhile, Andrew continues to research and write history and to travel: "My wife and I are preparing for a cruise into the North and Baltic Seas that will require something over a dozen maritime history lectures."

Michael Stone and his wife, Shelley, moved from a condominium into a lovely house in Boynton Beach, Fla. — three bedrooms, family room and a large lanai, plus a beautiful swimming pool. He adds, "The community is Venetian Isles. We are blessed." Their new address is 8848 Via Tuscany Drive, Boynton Beach, FL 33472, and phone is 561-736-6907. Michael may regret it but he says, "There is plenty of room, so come visit."

Barry Leeds, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of English at Central Connecticut State University, has continued to teach his Mailer and Hemingway courses for the 10 years since his nominal retirement. This May marked 50 years of university teaching for Barry. He and his college roommate, **Howard Felperin,** who reunited in New York at our 50th reunion, have discovered that the friendship between two guys in their 72nd years is as rewarding as that between two 21-year-olds.

Larry Wittner, professor of history emeritus at SUNY Albany, has retired from 43 years of teaching and has used his newly found leisure to write a novel, *What's Going On at UAardvark?* He describes the book as "an over-the-top satire about corporatization and rebellion on a modern university campus."

Larry Wittner '62 has retired from 43 years of teaching and has written a novel, *What's Going On at UAardvark?*

Larry is the author or editor of another dozen books but this is his first work of fiction. When he entered Columbia in 1958, he reports, he was planning to become a novelist, but was sidetracked by his interest in history. Now he has returned to his first love.

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Well, our wonderful 50th reunion is gone but not forgotten. The events leading up to it and the many stories told and heard will fill these notes and probably spill over into the next issue. Many of us on the Reunion Committee worked on this for more than 1½ years, and I have included a salute to all 25 of them on our website, cc63ers.com. We owe every one of them our thanks.

A few weeks before reunion there was Class Day, and several of us took part in the Alumni Parade of Classes. **Bruce Kaplan** and **Doron Gopstein** held our '63 banner proudly, and **Henry Black, Don Margolis, Phil Satow** and I had the pleasure of wearing full academic regalia and handing out class pins to the nearly 1,200 graduating seniors in the Class of 2013. It was an honor and a lot of fun to congratulate each of them.

The next day, Henry and Don marched in the academic procession at Commencement and witnessed me acting as the Honorary Hood Marshall through the ceremonies. If you have never come to a Columbia Commencement, you really should try to find an excuse to attend. It is an extraordinarily happy occasion.

Leading up to reunion, we each received a Class of 1963 50th reunion pin in the mail from Dean James J. Valentini and were able to purchase our own Columbia blue 50th anniversary tie thanks to **Robert Prenner** of the Ben Silver Collection. To complete our spiffy outfits, we were each handed an official Class of '63 baseball hat when we arrived for Alumni Reunion Weekend. With so much branding it was a cinch to recognize classmates throughout the weekend.

Our schedule for the weekend was a full one, and each event has been called "the best" by at least one classmate. It started on Wednesday evening at a reception at Donna and **Phil Satow**'s terrific loft. On Thursday, we enjoyed a picnic lunch on South Field along with the 50th reunion class from Barnard. That evening we were guests, along with the 25th reunion class, at the President's House.

Events began Friday with our class boat cruise and luncheon on the Hudson River, a perfect place to be on the warmest day of the year. That evening, we had dinner at Sparks Steak House. Excellent food, great company and an open bar — what more could you ask for?

Saturday brought us to Casa Italiana for our class lunch in the beautiful Il Teatro. Here, each class member (and members of Engineering's Class of '63) passed the mic and had an opportunity to share some key moments from their life at Columbia or beyond. It was fascinating; we are an interesting group of guys! It also turned out that a surprising number of us are married to the Barnard girl we met as undergraduates. That evening, the class banquet was held in Low Rotunda. Even though we suffered through a hot night in a non-air conditioned room, we managed to stay awake through the usual speeches as well as greetings from the dean. And of course, we also had great conversations with many of our long-lost friends.

Sunday morning brought the final chance to gather, with our class brunch in Low Library's Faculty Room. And then we said goodbye, until we meet again.

The verdict on the reunion? "Wonderful," "Bravo," "Terrific," "What a great time," "I had a blast" and "Truly memorable" were among the flood of comments I received.

Ben Tua says, "Apart from meeting up with friends and their spouses, one of the things I like about our reunions is speaking with classmates whom I did not know while at the College. I have met 'new' classmates at each of the three reunions I have attended, and this one was especially rewarding in this regard.

"I especially enjoyed learning about the really interesting, creative, courageous and sometimes idiosyncratic things that both new acquaintances and classmates whom I have known for years have done. It was tremendously impressive. As an indication of the quality of the event for our class, my wife told me, without prompting, that it was terrific — and I am quite sure she meant it."

Doron Gopstein writes, "Our reunion was about far more than memories. It was truly memorable. Thanks to everyone who was there for being there, for your friendships and for sharing parts of your life stories and who you are now."

Sadly, many classmates were unable to attend. **Larry Kettner** wrote in ahead of time: "I had been looking forward to getting together with classmates at the reunion. Unfortunately for me, I'm in the middle of a series of every-other-week chemo sessions that pretty much knock me out for a couple of days. The reunion coincides with one of those bad periods.

"I was especially looking forward to seeing one of my best friends from Columbia, **Ed Coller,** who I notice is on the Reunion Committee. I'd love to get together with him in one of my good weeks to catch up on the last 50 years."

Dov Grunschlag wrote, "I was making plans to attend and then my wife broke her ankle (in a very unexciting slip and fall). She had surgery and will have limited mobility for a couple of months, which eliminated all travel plans. I am very sorry to miss the reunion."

Elliott Greher wrote, "I am deeply sorry to decide not to come to the 50th. For various reasons I missed all the earlier ones but I was not going

to do so this time around. Health, however, has done me in. I walk poorly even with a cane. I see poorly because of limited vision in one eye and none in the other. When I retired 13 years ago, I did not realize how health would do me in even though I finally had the time to travel and, to a certain degree, the funds to travel where I wished. Now the reunion takes its turn."

Richard Goldwater (né Goldwasser) writes, "I left Columbia in 1963 feeling like a miserable failure academically and intellectually, and feeling deeply the loss of the friendships for which there was no longer a supportive context.

"LSD use during the 1970s helped me to recover or perhaps discover my wits, the downside of which was the sense that I had a Columbia education lying dormant within me. Not that I understood anything while I was at Columbia; I knew I was just accumulating impressions and collecting data that I might get back to later. The LSD galvanized all that, obligating me to reanimate the investment in my brain that medical school had mummified. A kind of intellectual rebirth occurred during my psychiatry residency (what else could I do, go into show business?) when I realized that I could think about Hamlet and King Lear as if they were patients of mine. Suddenly, I was no longer an intimidated dolt but a wise counselor to the severely miffed. I loved practicing what is now the lost art of psychotherapy (done in by Big Pharma and the Profit Motive), but in my spare time when not busy being divorced, I have struggled to accomplish what anybody at Columbia in those days might want to do over a lifetime: come out with a Theory of Everything. After all, if one thinks that one has figured out Hamlet's mystery, then figuring out the entire universe is the logical next step … "

So starts a long and fascinating note from Richard. Visit cc63ers.com for the full text and visit his websites, rolesandrules.com and profitandentropy.com, to learn more.

David Hitlin '68 GSAS writes, "I was at the Saturday lunch at Casa Italiana but had to leave while the microphone was being passed around, as I had matinee theatre tickets, so I'm taking this opportunity to say a few words here instead.

"I, along with quite a number of physics majors in our year, stayed on at Columbia for grad school. The department had, at that time, seven current or future Nobel Prize winners; what better place to be? I got my degree in 1968 and stayed on for a year. I then spent 10 years at Stanford before going to Caltech in 1979, where I have been ever since. I am an experimental elementary particle physicist and have led several large international collaborations. I remain active and hope to be at it for some time to come. I am married to Martha Mann Slagerman, a psychoanalyst with a practice in Santa Monica."

Charles E. Miller joined the law firm of Sills Cummis & Gross as senior counsel and co-chair of the Intellectual Property Law Group in the firm's midtown Manhattan office, where he continues his practice of counseling, licensing, litigation and dispute resolution, mainly in the fields of chemical and pharmaceutical patents.

Frank Sypher responded to my list of the top 10 moments of 1963, emailed to classmates before reunion. He says, "And yes, there was that strange man who whenever I passed him on the southwest corner of Broadway and 116th, outside of Chock Full o'Nuts, would shout at me: 'Youoooooo … YUMKEE!' Once I stopped and asked him what that meant, and he said it was all in the leaflet he had. So I asked him if I could have a leaflet, and he said, 'No! You YUMKEE!'"

Mark Dintenfass added, "I knew the guy's performance well, and I wrote him into my first novel, which partially takes place on Morningside Heights, but I hadn't thought about him in a couple of decades or more. Now I'm back there in my mind. Can it really be half a century?

"For the record, I've never attended reunions because they inconveniently come just when the spring term at Lawrence University (where I've spent my career teaching) is reaching its paper-grading, exam-preparing, student-needy climax. I really would have liked to come to this one but couldn't manage it. My regards to my old friends from *Spectator* who are on the Reunion Committee — **Dave Alpern, Doron Gopstein** and **Larry Apple** — and give a special hello to **Gary Rachelefsky.** He and I grew up on the same block in Brooklyn."

Bill Goebel wrote ahead of time, "[My wife] Barbara and I are looking forward to seeing my fellow alums at Sparks, a restaurant where I entertained and was entertained many times during my career at TIAA. In fact, I had lunch there the day after Paul Castellano's murder, which Pat Cetta, the owner, liked to call 'the incident.' I retired as an associate general counsel and team leader in September 2000 after a career of 28 years. Although it was stressful work, it was intellectually stimulating and rewarding, and I worked on and closed more than $3 billion worth of commercial real estate transactions throughout the United States (the most memorable of which is the famous Mall of America in Bloomington, Minn.). I was also fortunate to travel all over the world. We live in Syosset, N.Y., and have two children (Jason, an attorney and clearance officer with First American, and Pamela, who is a director at American Express). We also have two grandchildren who are aspiring athletes."

It is my sad duty to report the death of **Byron C. Cohen,** in Kansas City, Mo., on May 10, 2013. He had run an art gallery there and you can still visit his website at byroncohengallery.com.

Remember, our regular class lunches at the Columbia University Club of New York are always a great place to reconnect. If you're in NYC, try to make one of the next ones, scheduled for October 10, November 14 and December 12 — it's always the second Thursday of the month. Check cc63ers.com for details.

In the meantime, let us know what you are up to, how you're doing and what's next.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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The big news lies ahead: our 50th anniversary Alumni Reunion Weekend is next year and runs for five days: Wednesday, May 28–Sunday, June 1, 2014, one day longer than all the other classes' celebration.

Steve Case has agreed to chair the Reunion Committee. In the past **Nick Rudd** took charge, but with his passing someone had to step up to take the reins. We are grateful Steve did but are mindful he cannot do it alone.

During the summer, a preliminary organizational meeting was held by some classmates who live in the New York City area. We need broader participation and input, however. We want to fill those five days with programs that are not only fun but also are meaningful to everyone.

If you are unable to participate in NYC planning sessions, please send me your ideas and suggestions. (You can also get in touch with either of the Alumni Office contacts at the top of the column for ways to get involved.) And perhaps most importantly, start speaking to classmates in your area to generate interest in coming so that attendance next year is as high as possible.

Obviously, a 50th reunion is significant for many reasons. Let's make it memorable.

Ivan Weissman reports that at Class Day in May, he, **Howard Jacobson, Peter Thall** and **Fred Kantor** carried our class banner during the Alumni Parade of Classes. The speech by playwright Terrence McNally '60 received a standing ovation. You can find it at college.columbia.edu/Terrence McNally. It is inspiring and, although intended for the Class of 2013, well suited for a class approaching its 50th reunion. I highly recommend it.

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Bob Gunn sent a great report on "what's been happening in my life." He writes, "After 40 years, I retired from my last full-time church job as a United Church of Christ pastor. I moved to my own apartment in Astoria, Queens, and continued my private practice of psychotherapy in Manhattan (which has been going for about 35 years). Having published one book, *Journeys Into Emptiness: Dōgen, Merton, Jung and the Quest for Transformation,* my plan was to finish putting onto my computer several other books that had lain dormant in my mind, to polish my piano playing, to begin doing some chamber music and to focus on my practice of Zen Buddhism.

"So far, I have almost finished the first draft of my memoir, received ordination as a Soto Zen Buddhist priest and am just beginning to do some chamber music. In addition, I am teaching several courses: 'The Depth Psychological Dimensions of Inter-religious Dialogue and Double Belonging' at Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York, 'Transference and Countertransference' at the Metropolitan Institute for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy and a senior thesis seminar at New York Theological Seminary. This is what retirement looks like to me.

"A couple of years ago, I was delighted to join with fellow Columbia alums who had been members of the Glee Club at Alumni Reunion Weekend. It was a great rendezvous, organized largely through the extraordinary efforts of Nick Rudd '64, '67 Business, who unfortunately passed away last year. May the music continue! Greetings to all!"

Piqued by this, I asked Bob, "Can one be, and are you, simultaneously a Christian and a Buddhist? Are

Frank Snepp '65, '68 SIPA Chases the Truth From Saigon to Los Angeles

By Ted Rabinowitz '87

Frank Snepp '65, '68 SIPA stood on the roof of the U.S. embassy in Saigon. It was April 30, 1975. In a few minutes, the last CIA chopper would evacuate him to the *U.S.S. Denver*. The North Vietnamese were shelling the city. The air was filled with smoke as hundreds of South Vietnamese struggled in vain to enter the embassy and board a flight. Bowing to the inevitable, Snepp boarded the helicopter, knowing that he was abandoning friends and colleagues to the North Vietnamese.

The Fall of Saigon would be a decisive moment for Snepp. Angered by how the CIA and State Department had handled the evacuation, he would become one of the CIA's first whistleblowers, and his legal battle to publish his exposé would go all the way to the Supreme Court. Afterward, he would become an award-winning investigative journalist, exposing corruption on the national and local levels. Snepp could not have predicted the path his career would take, but he knows that it started at Columbia.

Born in Kinston, N.C., Snepp came to Columbia as a self-described conservative Southerner with a taste for "drunken saber duels" with Princeton students. Columbia offered him unique opportunities: He attended lectures by Henry Kissinger and Zbigniew Brzezinski, and was a publicity secretary for Jacques Barzun '27, '32 GSAS, I.I. Rabi '27 GSAS and Lionel Trilling '25, '38 GSAS when they went on lecture tours. Most importantly, the Morningside Heights campus exposed Snepp to people with backgrounds he had never encountered. "Columbia is such a terrific institution for anyone who wants to go into government or journalism, because you're always rubbing against the rough edge of reality," he says. "It teaches you to be tolerant, it teaches you to be watchful, it teaches you to understand the values of people who don't look like you … a willingness to keep your eyes open for other people's truths."



Frank Snepp '65, '68 SIPA, seen in this recent photo from San Diego, had a career with the CIA and now is an investigative journalist in Los Angeles.

PHOTO: COURTESY FRANK SNEPP '65, '68 SIPA

After studying Elizabethan literature, Snepp spent a year at CBS News as a desk assistant for Walter Cronkite and Mike Wallace. He then returned to Columbia to study at the School of International Affairs (SIA, now SIPA).

Snepp's politics and academic specialization made him a strong candidate for the CIA. He was recruited by SIA's Associate Dean Philip Mosely, who had helped shape America's post-WWII foreign policy and was one of the world's leading authorities on Soviet affairs. "[Mosely] said, 'Frank, I don't think you're sophisticated enough to be in the State Department. How would you like to be a spy?'" Snepp agreed.

After a year in Europe, the CIA detailed Snepp to Vietnam in 1969. Turning down the traditional two-year assignment rotation, he remained in-country, becoming one of the Saigon station's top experts in North Vietnamese strategy and psychology. Unusually for the agency, he was both a desk analyst and a field operative, running a key network of informants. It was difficult, dangerous work that exposed him to the underside of the war and placed him in morally ambiguous situations. He helped South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu flee Saigon in the middle of the night with suitcases full of gold; he was almost killed by an American soldier for providing medicine to a wounded prisoner; and he interrogated high-ranking prisoners, including Colonel Nguyen Van Tai, a top Communist operative who had come south to coordinate North Vietnam's counterintelligence and terror network in Saigon.

As he spent more and more time in-country, Snepp's views on the war and America's involvement began to change. "I loved the people, but I loathed the [South Vietnamese] government," he says. He saw fellow staffers at the U.S. Embassy who "threw up their hands" and descended into booze and drugs, and he encountered spectacular corruption among the South Vietnamese elite.

Snepp's disenchantment was made complete by the evacuation of American forces from Vietnam. The evacuation removed American personnel and some Vietnamese safely, but it left behind hundreds, perhaps thousands, of Vietnamese "assets" who had worked for the United States, often at great risk. Snepp believed that mismanagement, arrogance and political pressure at the CIA and State Department had abandoned these men and women to the harsh treatment of the invading North Vietnamese. For him, the loss was personal. "Some dear friends didn't get out, and killed themselves."

Once stateside, Snepp was awarded the CIA's Medal of Merit for his analyses during the last

months of the war. He pushed the CIA to investigate and report on the failures of the evacuation and to organize a rescue of its Vietnamese partners. After being rebuffed for a year, he quit the agency and wrote *Decent Interval,* a book documenting the evacuation and his time in Saigon. A.J. "Jack" Langguth, chief of *The New York Times'* Saigon bureau during the war, is unequivocal about *Decent Interval*'s impact. "I'm not particularly sympathetic to Frank's former employer [the CIA]," he says, "but I think Frank's book is the single finest record of that shameful episode."

Published in 1977, *Decent Interval* provided one of the earliest of several revelations about the agency, and the CIA sued Snepp to prevent publication. In 1980, the case reached the Supreme Court; Snepp lost. The consequences were devastating. *Decent Interval* had already been published but the agency seized the book's royalties. "One day [he] had $300,000 in the bank, the next day [he] had nothing," says Langguth.

That year, Snepp became an investigative journalist. For the next two decades, he contributed to periodicals such as *The New York Times, Granta, McCall's, Village Voice, The Washington Post, Playboy* and *Newsday.* With Wallace's help he returned to broadcast news, working with local news stations in Southern California and nationally with ABC's *World News Tonight* (1987–92), CBS (2003–05) and NBC, beginning in 2005. Working for *World News Tonight* in 1987, he confirmed that the Iran/Contra conspiracy was backed by the Reagan administration by getting Eugene Hasenfus, the surviving crew member of a downed Sandinista cargo transport, to confirm that he had signed a government secrecy agreement. Snepp won an Emmy in 1997 for his investigation of Mexican drug trafficking; and in 2006, he won a Peabody award for "Burning Questions," an exposé of Los Angeles' Playa Vista housing development, which had been sited over a toxic landfill. Now living in Southern California, Snepp focuses on new journalism projects and on raising his young daughter. ("My hope is that she'll go to Columbia, and that she won't become an actress.")





Above, a BBC TV crew member films Snepp in 1991 on the roof of the U.S. Embassy in Saigon for a documentary. At right, Snepp receives the CIA Medal of Merit in 1975 from CIA Director William E. Colby.
PHOTOS: COURTESY FRANK SNEPP '65, '68 SIPA

As a journalist and an intelligence analyst, Snepp says that he sees "information as an instrument of change"; his heroes are Wallace and national security journalist Seymour "Sy" Hersh. He credits Columbia with his belief in the power of knowledge: "Columbia teaches you that seeking the truth is the responsibility of every thinking person. During the worst days of Vietnam, it made me realize that if I could get the truth out, it would make a difference."

When asked about modern-day whistleblowers such as Julian Assange and Bradley Manning, Snepp is careful to draw distinctions. "You can walk into a newspaper office and blow everything you know and mow down everyone, and I'm not sure that's worthwhile. The WikiLeaks people and Manning seem to be nihilists, and I don't understand that."

Nevertheless, Snepp is unwavering in his belief that it is vital to expose the truth, no matter what the personal cost. "If we don't have genuine whistleblowers who are willing to stand up, we're in real trouble. But you'll get trashed. No one loves a whistleblower."

Langguth sees things a little differently. For him, *Decent Interval* is on par with the leaking of the Pentagon Papers by Daniel Ellsberg in 1971. Ultimately, he says, "people will give Frank the kind of acclaim that Ellsberg gets now."

Ted Rabinowitz '87 *is a copywriter and author. His first novel,* The Wrong Sword, *was published last year by Musa Books under the pen name Ted Mendelssohn.*

they fully complementary, or do you have to shave off some edges to get them to coexist?"

Bob replied: "There are two levels to your question: One has to do with whether one can practice as both a Buddhist and a Christian with integrity. The other has to do with whether institutions of Buddhism and Christianity allow what we often call 'double belonging,' and that has to be answered by specific institutions. In my case, as a minister in the United Church of Christ (think Pilgrims), I have not found any problem. Generally, there is no problem with Buddhists having a Christian affiliation; the Christians are more likely to take exception. My answer in both cases is there is no problem being/doing both. That is the gist of the course I am teaching at Union Seminary."

Bob's website is deepjourneys.net, and his email address is drrwgunn@gmail.com.

I crossed professional paths with **Bob Henn** recently and coaxed him into sharing. He writes, "At the same age as most of us in the Class of 1965 (I hesitate to mention it in print — it seems so old!), I'm still working more than full-time at my chosen vocation as a business/real estate transactional lawyer in Northern California while I and my wife, Rebecca, put our four kids through college — none, alas, at Columbia. At least I still have my health. One of my principal pleasures is getting out on my road bike along the California coast and in its surrounding hills with my friends, an experience that's all the sweeter for still being able to do it at this age.

"All four kids, Christopher (17), Andrew (19), Laura (21) and Matthew (22), are doing well and may actually earn an independent living for themselves one of these days. My best to everyone."

Bob's email address is rhenn@hennetzel.com.

I emailed **Dennis Selkoe** (dselkowpartners.org), who responded: "Life is very good for my wife, Polly, and me here in Boston; we've been married more than 45 years, and together since my freshman year at the College. We met at a Delta Phi fraternity party, which I had actually arranged (as a new recruit) with the Dalton School, where she was a junior. Love at first sight (for me).

"I am a professor of neurology at Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women's Hospital, and I continue my career-long study of the molecular basis of Alzheimer's disease (with a laboratory of about 15 fellows and grad students). The field has moved steadily forward, and a company I helped to start in 1986, Athena Neurosciences (then called Elan), designed monoclonal antibodies, the best of which is now in advanced (phase 3) clinical trials and has shown some real promise in slowing down the progression of Alzheimer's. I also do basic research on the mechanism of Parkinson's disease.

"Polly and I have two married children, a son in Boston's Back Bay and a daughter in Santa Barbara, Calif., who have collectively given us three grandchildren thus far. We do some traveling and grandchild care but both of us are very much working full time and have no plans to retire. Polly is an urban planner and is the chief planner of the town of Brookline (and my life!).

"Best regards to our classmates."

John McDougall (johnmcdougall@earthlink.net) writes, "I practice criminal law and plan to continue for at least a couple of more years. All things considered I'm in great health, and my marriage is doing fine as well. My two grown sons are pursuing careers successfully at this point. Thankfully, the economy in the Bay Area is doing better."

I recently visited with **Jim Siegel**, who is nearly finished writing his new (second) book. He followed up with this description: "Called *The Inner Divinity: A New Work-View Based on Jungian Psychology*, it's an attempt to render accessible the full range of Carl Jung's visionary thinking to an audience outside the Jungian community, a challenge that remains unaccomplished. Without exaggeration, Jung's work, if properly understood, can usher in a new stage of the Judeo-Christian tradition while transforming our understanding of human nature. Since his ideas are compatible with many key aspects of Eastern philosophy, it's possible for the first time to glimpse the outline of a single, unified belief system. This prospect should not be surprising because the world's major religions and perennial philosophies are different facets of the same something. Jung's ideas have an empirical foundation because they're based on his interpretation of symbols issuing spontaneously from the psyche that are found in myth, dreams, religion and alchemical writings.

"The influence of the Core Curriculum at Columbia, which washed over me, was instrumental in causing me to circle back, after forays into investment banking and the nonprofit world, to reengage the basic questions about existence that we addressed as undergraduates. I would be glad to hear from classmates. My email is jimsiegel77@yahoo.com."

I'll bet ours is the only class in this issue of *CCT* that has two references to Carl Jung in its Class Notes!

Gene Spiegel (genespiegel@gmail.com) shares, "After graduation I wandered around California for several years before becoming a teacher of transcendental meditation (TM) in 1971. I traveled throughout the United States, lecturing and teaching, for seven years. In '77, I became a stockbroker and did that for 25 years, with some occasional extended vacations. I retired in 2004.

"I have lived in Atlanta since '74. In 2004, I remarried and have two children, Alexander (8) and Clara (4). My wife, Katrin Kohl, is a deputy director at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and I am a full-time dad. The only persons I am in touch with from my college days are Margo Brewer Harrison '65 Barnard and **Bruce Zimmer.** I have tried to get in touch with friend **Dodge Ely,** to no avail. Because my wife is German, we spend a month every summer in Europe, usually in Majorca, Spain. It's a good life. As I write, my 70th birthday is coming up in a week, and it does give one pause. It sounds so old, although I am in pretty good health for an old codger.

"Well, that's the last 48 years in a nutshell. Hope it helps."

If anyone has any information about Dodge, do let us know.

Also, I asked Gene whether he has continued with his TM practice, and whether it fit in with his commercial and family life. Gene responded, "I became a TM teacher simply because I wanted to be able to teach people whom I met. I had no intention of making it a full-time gig. But one thing led to another and there you have it. I was actually the Southeast area coordinator, in charge of the whole Southeast minus Florida. I do still practice TM, not so much out of habit but because I continue to experience the benefits I noticed when I first started: clearer thinking, greater energy and heightened sense of calm and happiness. All those things certainly made being a stockbroker a lot easier, and definitely make me a better husband and father. I didn't mean to turn this into an advertisement, but since you asked … "

Steve Steinig (sms24@optonline.net) responded to **Dan Waitzman**'s question in our Spring 2013 column. Speaking both of our Freshman Week and of our eventual mortality, Dan had mused, "Will we have to wear beanies once again, after we graduate?"

Steve's response: "Dan's question about whether we'll have to wear beanies once again after we graduate was chilling. It made me aware that I don't know if a *kippah* is worn by the deceased in a traditional Jewish funeral. (I remember being asked to provide a *tallit* to the funeral home for my father's burial but don't remember being asked for a *kippah*.) So the answer to your question is, yes, I may well have to wear a beanie at the end."

Reg Maton '66, '67E, '70E is principal partner of Think Strategic Technology Partners, an IT consulting firm in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

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James Larson writes, "My wife, Judy, and I [going on 44 years together] retired to Delaware in 2009 after law practice and kid-raising in western Colorado, my home venue. She is from New Jersey and liked the idea of coming to her home area. Sometimes the weather sort of sucks, but there is a longer growing season for gardening, plus more frequent golfing and water sports. Son Taylor and family are in Denver, with two kids; daughter Barbara, with boyfriend of several years, is in Maryland. We enjoy our still-rural lifestyle but now with the advantages of big city fixes closer to home. We see **Ken Rollston, El Schaefer** and **Tom McMahan** on occasion. Does anyone have contact info for **Gary Foulks?**"

Reg Maton '67E, '70E is principal partner of Think Strategic Technology Partners, an IT consulting firm in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. He played varsity baseball and football at Columbia and was an assistant varsity football coach for Aldo "Buff" Donelli. Upon graduation he worked for AT&T, then CBS in New York from 1970–1982, where he was director, planning and business development and director, human resources. He also was director of information technology for CBS.

Reg joined Tiffany & Co. in New York as v.p. and CIO. He worked at Tiffany from 1983–93, when he joined Olympus America on Long Island as its CIO. He went on to be s.v.p. and CIO of Standard Microsystems Corp., Symbol Technologies and Scholastic. Reg retired in 2008 and moved to Florida.

He and his wife, Cynthia, have been married for 24 years. They

have lived in Greenwich, Conn., and Vero Beach, Fla. They have six children and 10 grandchildren. Reg and Cynthia reside in Frenchman's Landing in Palm Beach Gardens, where they are active members of Jupiter First Church.

Paul Kastin writes, "Entered with the Class of '66 but graduated with the Class of '65, not because I'm smart but because I went to summer school two summers. Played tennis and swam, enjoyed fraternity life immensely (Beta house: 'nuf said!), went to Chicago's graduate school of business. Honestly, absent help from the dean of students, I'd still be there!

"Thought all the while in college and grad school that I was going to take over my family business, teach art history, live semi-rural and life would be good. A month prior to finishing at Chicago, I learned the family business was history. So I worked for a huge company in Chicago for a bit, then a smaller one for four years. In '74, I relocated to Atlanta to run a still smaller firm. A slump left that company with a Lear jet and a Mitsubishi turbo prop, and I could use the planes anytime the owner didn't! I ran that company until he sold it four years later, at which time I started my own firm in the perishable protein (meat, poultry, seafood) business. It's never wonderful, but never awful, either.

"Shortly after moving to Atlanta, I met and married a Romanian girl, educated in Paris and an art history major at Emory. We have three terrific children and four terrific grandsons. One of my sons, Avery '01, attended Columbia, where he ran the largest on-campus student organization, Ferris Reel, was a member of the Ivy championship golf team, received the Eisenhower watch as the scholar-athlete of his class and graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. I tell him that between the two of us, we had an average academic career there. He works with me now.

"My wife and I have made foreign travel a priority, going abroad a minimum of 30 days annually irrespective of our ability to afford it or our kids or our businesses. Lots of countries, some earlier than most travelers — e.g., Burma and Cambodia in the late '80s. It's a lifestyle choice that we're glad we made. The only difference as the years went on is where we sat in the plane and some improvement in the quality of lodgings.

"I loved the College and proudly support it, sometimes the Columbia College Fund, sometimes Athletics. The Betas from our era get together somewhere different almost every year. You know what I learned? You can't be full of it with people who knew you when you were 18!"

George Appelbaum writes, "Living in rural Northern California, married 29 years, no children, retired in 1999 from 23 years as a Legal Aid attorney; still practicing law part-time out of my home, gardening, playing music, traveling and learning languages (currently up to eight). Best wishes to all classmates."

An illustration of the late **B. Michael Noone** was included in Marjorie Haun's recent book, *Saving the Vietnamese Orphans: The Heroes of the Vietnam War, Book Two: Operation Babylift*. Michael will be further recognized at the 2013 Operation Babylift Reunion event in Dana Point, Calif., by his widow, Lana, who is honored by his inclusion in the book. The illustration shows Michael and Lana, greeting their daughter, Jennie '99 SW, at JFK on the occasion of her arrival as an infant from Vietnam in 1975.

Marvin Pilo '83L writes, "After years teaching political science at Clemson, I switched careers and returned to Columbia for law school. Upon graduation, my wife, Jackie; children, Elissa and Michael; and I moved to West Hartford, Conn., where I practiced law for 27 years, specializing in commercial real estate finance, acquisitions, dispositions and leasing. I joined Jackie in retirement in 2010 and we love the freedom and flexibility we now have to do the things we could not find time for when we were working and raising a family. This includes traveling, taking courses for pleasure and reading voraciously. Of course, we spend a lot of time in Brooklyn, satisfying our greatest passion: visiting our children and five grandchildren."

Michael Harrison writes, "My wife, JoAnn '66 Barnard, and I welcomed our third granddaughter in July. Our son and daughter-in-law live nearby, so we see quite a bit of one another.

"I am completing my 10th year at the Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality, which is part of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, and have no retirement plans. After more than 30 years in academia, my job at AHRQ remains a fresh and welcome second career. I help plan and oversee research and pilot studies aimed at improving the delivery of health care and effective implementation of administrative and technical innovations (including health information technology).

"In my limited spare time, I continue choral singing with the American University Chorus and help facilitate a weekly Torah study group at our local synagogue. In the past few years I have heard from a few classmates including **Geoff Dutton** and Peter Burmeister '70."

Paul Hirsch lives in Pacific Palisades, Calif., with his wife, Jane. He writes, "We moved here from New York in 1983. I have been a feature film editor for the last 43 years. I won an Oscar in 1978 for *Star Wars*. I was nominated again in 2006 for *Ray*. My credits are on IMDB.com. After attending Brown and Columbia, respectively, our daughter, Gina, and son, Eric '03, have followed me into the movie business, she as an editor and he as a post-production sound mixer. Eric and his wife, Katherine, a music editor, are the parents of Joseph Hirsch, born January 18, and live in Brooklyn. Gina lives here in Los Angeles. I hope to work for a while longer. My ambition is to choose the date of my retirement rather than let the market make that choice for me. We'll see how that goes."

Ken Benoit writes, "I retired from my surgery career in 2007 and settled on Cedar Lake in Bristol, Conn., for my retirement years with my wonderful Irish wife of 37 years, Mary. Most mornings, I spend my time watching magnificent sunrises and catching largemouth bass from my boat with my Golden Retriever, Maggie, and most afternoons I play golf with my geezer friends. Life is good.

"I married off my two beautiful daughters in 2011 and now have a wonderful new grandson; another is due in June. The joys of being a grandparent are unmatched and make the old age process a lot more fun."

Geoff Dutton writes, "In January I got a pretty good job offer after having decided to retire last summer. I accepted, and now work full-time documenting insanely complex software that's used to effect high-frequency trading of financial instruments and other more or less dubious exploits of big data. Although I'm a tech guy, this is by no means an ideal gig for me given its implications for society. But I have a kid in middle school and a wife who's been in the job market for a while, so my toils pay our bills, bankroll my girl's future schooling and provide us with affordable health insurance.

"In 1995, I moved to Europe for three years to tie up some loose ends of my geospatial research from the 1980s and pick up a Ph.D. During that time I married for the second time, and then came back to settle down in Belmont, Mass., where our daughter was born. Then, with no regrets, I exited the geospatial world to work as a writer because that's where the money seemed to be.

"In spare moments, I write stories, memoirs and essays that I publish at the wonderful cowbird.com. For now, though, I simply do what makes sense to keep us going, and on the side create stuff that more or less gratifies me."

Jonathan Sunshine writes, "For many years, I was the director of research at a physician specialty society, doing research studies and publishing papers. (By the time this ended, I was an author on more than 200 papers.) However, two years ago, the society made the research department part of its advocacy/lobbying unit. I felt this didn't augur well for the opportunity to continue to pursue objective research and, in any case, I'd been interested in getting back into a broader whirl of health policy work. So I left for a project that was ongoing at the Urban Institute, a liberal Washington, D.C., think tank with a large health policy group. That was interesting and enjoyable. But the funding for the project ran out about a year ago, and I found myself involuntarily and unhappily retired.

"Intellectually, however, I knew there were lots of things out there to do, and it took only about three months until I was busy. At this point, I've found enough worthwhile and interesting activities to keep triplets busy. A partial list: I volunteer at the National Museum of Natural History, as a tutor for immigrants learning English, and in a program that does tax returns for free for elderly and low-income people. I'm taking a fistful of courses in Osher programs, a loose network of minimal-tuition courses specifically for retirees. There's also a Columbia alumni book club here in the D.C. area that's working its way through the classics that are read in CC and Lit Hum. Another book club I'm involved in is composed of alumni of my high school and 'meets' by email chat.

"We have five grandchildren, ranging in age from 4–9. We get together about every four to six weeks. We much enjoy time with them and wish more frequent visits were feasible."

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My wife, Diane, and I recently returned from a memorable trip to Israel. We visited with my 96-year-old uncle and my two cousins, whom I had not seen for 57 years.

I am sad to report that **Joel A. Linsider,** who was retired, passed away in Jerusalem on June 28, 2012, and **John L. Dent** passed

away in Etobicoke, Ontario, Canada, on May 7, 2013.

No other news this time. Please do write. You can send updates to me at the email address at the top of the column or via *CCT*'s easy-to-use webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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Summer in New York City — sweltering hot as I write this.

Our reunion was a success on many fronts though I wish I had more time to spend with classmates. The turnout was very good though the Reunion Committee, headed by **Mas Taketomo** (salute to Mas), received a number of notes from classmates who wanted to come but had conflicts. I have no doubt that our 50th reunion will result in the best turnout ever.

I hope everyone received **Paul de Bary**'s wine book, *The Persistent Observer's Guide to Wine*, sent out by the committee. Thanks to Paul for the reduction in cost; the book is great. Go buy it for your friends.

And before I forget, the Reunion Committee included (I bet I miss someone so I am sorry in advance): **Pete Janovsky**, who led the effort with regard to the class bios and remembrances (thanks to him for focusing on this); **John Roy** and **Nigel Paneth,** who worked on the programming; and **Greg Winn, Jeff Kurnit, Ira Goldberg, Jim Shorter** and **Buzz Zucker. Ross Ain** made the effort to raise funds for the Class Gift.

On behalf of the class, I also thank the Alumni Office for its efforts.

So — onto the weekend itself! The weather was great and the campus activities and lectures were rewarding. (If you want to see the class photo from our Saturday dinner and the list of all registrants, go to college.columbia.edu/cct/summer13/features4.)

The Thursday cocktail party at **John Slattery**'s home was a pleasure and many made it (thanks to John and his wife, Kathy). The cocktail party on Friday, at Faculty House, also was fun. My wife and I enjoyed spending some time afterward with **Greg Winn** and his wife, Vera. They are such fun, full of good cheer and good thoughts, and Greg is just the same, full of infectious laughter as always (and with a book about to be published, too).

Our Saturday luncheon in Kent Hall was perfect: the elegance of the room, the comments by Nigel, **Larry Susskind, Jon Bauman, Jim Shorter, John Roy, Greg Winn,** Mas and me were brief enough, and impressive. In addition, **Andy Herz** talked about spending time outside of work doing good deeds, and **Paul de Bary** spoke about the value of the Core Curriculum as the College's unique academic program from which we all benefited.

That night, our cocktail party and dinner with keynote speaker **Robert Siegel** of NPR was fabulous. Everyone seemed to be in grand humor, looking alert and cheerful and engaging and enjoying themselves. Especially fun was a rendition, before we ate, of *Roar, Lion, Roar*, enhanced by members of the cello ensemble String Theory, including Nathan Chan '15, a nationally renowned musician and Columbia College/Juilliard student. They were stunningly good and charming and played short pieces before dinner. (My nephew, Ben Spector (12), performed with Nathan for two pieces; thanks, Nathan, and thank you, Ben — this uncle was happy, indeed.)

Robert was a pleasure to listen to — enlightening, enthralling with that grand voice, and a true journalist. This renowned citizen of the airwaves had much to say about media, media objectivity, newspapers, NPR and so on. (Hamilton, Jay and Columbia's founders would be proud of him for his dedication to this essential national goal of being informative and objective, and reporting the national and international news.)

My wife and I were pleased to sit with **Bill McDavid** and his wife at the Saturday dinner. The former rock-and-roll band man from Columbia is still active and has a 10-year-old — so it's clear he is staying in good health. (Last time I played squash with him I was injured for a couple of years; I am healed now and ready again with a request for two minutes rest between points.)

After dinner, my wife and I danced for a while at the Starlight Reception, held on Low Plaza. The band's lead singer, a female vocalist, was sensational; she did "I Gotta Feeling" by the Black Eyed Peas and the like.

If I may, a brief thought from *Henry V:*

"He that outlives this day, and comes safe home,/ Will stand a tiptoe when the day is named,/ And rouse him at the name of Crispian … And gentlemen in England now a-bed/ Shall think themselves accursed they were not here … That fought with us upon Saint Crispin's day."

So, to the gentlemen who couldn't come: We assembled, spirited and vibrant, laughing and clearly curious, surely grateful for the energy and vitality that we brought to the reunion. I hope that you are having a good 2013, and maybe I will see you later this year, perhaps at a football game — Homecoming could be the place (Saturday, October 19; see "Roar, Lion, Roar" in this issue).

And by the way, to **Paul Brosnan** and the former Lions baseball players: congratulations to the Ivy League Baseball Champs of 2013. The Columbia Lions whipped the Big Green for first place in the playoff and had success at the NCAA national baseball tournament, too. I continue to expect much from the Lions this year in football, basketball and soccer. And the women's sports are just fabulous; the tennis team was the Ivy League champ!

Mark Rosenzweig '69, the Frank Altschul Professor of International Economics and director of the Economic Growth Center at Yale, has been elected as a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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To my eye, South Field on a sunny spring morning bedecked for Class Day is as pretty a sight as I know. And, on May 21, we had such a sight for Class Day 2013. For the ninth consecutive year, I held up one end of the Class of 1969 banner in the Alumni Parade of Classes; **Irv Ruderman**, now a regular at the event, anchored the other end. We were joined by **Arnold Rady '69E,** whose son, Michael, was among the graduates. As always, our class banner generated excitement and applause on the part of the newest alumni. It is a grand tradition, and I encourage classmates to join the parade the next time around.

In fact, next year's Class Day would be an especially meaningful time to participate as it is but a short time before Alumni Reunion Weekend (Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1). This is our ninth reunion, a kinder way of saying that we commemorate our graduation every five years and it will be 45 years from our graduation next spring. Some of us are already engaged with the Alumni Office staff in planning the event. Soon you will begin to receive teasers and other materials encouraging you to attend, for it is the level of attendance that makes or breaks a reunion. If you are interested in helping in the planning or if you would like to share thoughts on what might lead you to join us (or what might turn you off), let me know or contact one of the staff members listed at the top of the column. We had a rousing turnout for our eighth reunion, with a good mix of those who are regulars and those who were first-time attendees. At the very least, save the dates on your calendar and stay tuned for details.

Bob Papper reported in May, "I retired from full-time work on May 19 and moved west to Las Vegas. I am now distinguished emeritus professor of journalism at Hofstra and I'll continue my research on the radio and television news industry, but I'll do it poolside from Sin City. Visitors with return passage are welcome."

Jonathan Schiffer writes, "I have spent 50 percent of my career teaching in universities (in the United States, United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Netherlands, Russian Federation) and 50 percent working on Wall Street (for a major credit rating agency, where I analyzed sovereign risk in the former Soviet Union, China and Israel). I am now semi-retired — I have a small financial-economic consultancy — and will move to southeast Florida this year. I am divorced with a daughter (16). I have visited Columbia many times in recent years, using the library system and the Alumni Center and engaging in ad hoc discussions with a variety of people. The quality of facilities is excellent, as is the quality of undergraduates, which convinces me that if I were so unfortunate as to have to apply for admission to the College nowadays, I could never hope to get in."

From **Bob Brookshire:** "I am alive and well and living in Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif. My wife, Jodie, is from Palos Verdes. Our daughter, Devon, is a freshman at Northwestern. She is on the basketball team. Her declared major is cognitive science with a minor in business.

Current grade point average is 3.62. Great college; great experience; great scholarship. I am in reinsurance with THB Intermediaries. THB is now part of AmWINS Group, which is one of the largest wholesale insurance brokers in the U.S. See you at the reunion."

Johan Andersen writes, "I live in the Lakes Region of New Hampshire and am semi-retired. I may be the only member of the class who is a grocery clerk. Looking back at Columbia, my biggest regret is that I took to heart Dean David B. Truman's advice that Columbia isn't a trade school. I never did find the perfect career. My biggest happiness is that the theatre experiences I had (mostly at Barnard) led to a lifelong involvement in community theatre that has allowed me to play some of the great parts and to make wonderful friends. Other news: I am single with two wonderful children and two perfect grandchildren. Son Johan IV has son Johan V."

From **Jeffrey Klein,** who lives in California: "Late last year, Columbia flew me in to kick off its first Media Day. The former, longtime editor of *The Wall Street Journal* and I keynoted a panel on investigative reporting. Here is a link to a short report by the moderator, the head of the J-School's Stabile Center for Investigative Journalism: watchdog-watcher.com/2012/11/21/biodiversity-in-the-investigative-ecosystem/#more-842. She accurately characterizes me as the panel's flame/bomb thrower — and why not at our age?

"This second link is to *Spectator*'s live-tweet-recap: alumni.columbiaspectator.com/2012/11/columbia-media-conference-live-tweet-recap. Based on the dozens of students with whom I spoke afterward, today's undergraduates seem very intrigued by the values forged during our era."

Judd Gregg is now CEO of the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association, a leading trade association for the capital markets business.

Hilton Obenzinger has retired from his full-time position directing honors writing at Stanford and now teaches a few courses, including one in American Studies on standup comedy (Lenny Bruce, Richard Pryor, Sarah Silverman and more). He's working on several books and also is associate director of Stanford's "Chinese Railroad Workers in North America Project." The work of the Chinese building the transcontinental railroad is almost legendary in the U.S. and China but hardly anything is known of the individual workers who labored under very difficult conditions.

Hilton adds, "We're planning for a conference in 2015 for the 150th anniversary of the start of the Chinese working on the transcontinental railroad; [there will be] scholars, performers and major public figures from both countries, an online multi-lingual digital archive of historic materials, and U.S. and Canadian archives and oral histories of descendants of railroad workers. Stanford was built with Leland Stanford's wealth and much of that resulted from the railroad, so the project is a long-overdue acknowledgement of the contribution of Chinese labor to establishing the university and the U.S. as a whole. To the university's credit, the administration is enthusiastically supporting the effort, and we hope eventually to build a monument to those workers on campus." You can check out Chinese Railroad Workers.stanford.edu.

Woody Lewis writes, "After a successful 2012 as an independent Web architect, I joined EMC in January as advisory solutions architect, Digital Strategy Practice, EMC Consulting. My expertise in social publishing and content management is being put to good use and I'm writing an e-book on those topics as we speak. I'm also putting my Bennington College M.F.A. to use, writing short stories and personal essays and continuing the draft of a novel. My son, Woody (III), completed his junior year as a film and video major at the School of Visual Arts in Manhattan. My wife, Cathryn, and I recently moved from Brooklyn back into 'the city.' When we first came back East in mid-2010, we lived on 110th and Morningside. I was in the Butler and Uris libraries far more than I had been as an undergrad or M.B.A. student, a place to get away from the home office. Recently saw **Bob Merlis** — who was in from L.A. for a show by his client Billy Gibbons (ZZ Top/Moving Sidewalks) — and **Gregg Geller** at a performance by The Nighthawks, the blues band fronted by Mark Wenner '71."

Michael Rosenblatt writes, "My wife, Patty, and I have five grandchildren. We are fortunate to have all of them living in New England. Rose (8), Gregory (6) and Arianna (10 months) are the children of our daughter, Mia, and her husband, Kevork. Mia works part-time as a lawyer in a local firm. They live nearby in Newton, Mass. My son, Adam, and his family moved from Palo Alto, Calif., to Burlington, Vt., 1½ years ago when Adam took his first faculty job at Champlain College. Adam and Amanda have two boys: Leo (5) and Sal (3).

"Patty is very involved with grandchildren, friends and cultural activities, so, after having a large show displaying her collected works, created during the last several years, she has decided to take a sabbatical from her work as an artist.

"It is now three years since I returned to Merck after an 18-year hiatus, this time as the company's chief medical officer. There seems to be a pattern of my leaving and returning to organizations! I am finding the mission of inventing new drugs and vaccines, and getting them to the people who need them, to be fulfilling. The activities and mindset this time around are truly global — a real contrast from my first 'tour of duty.' My travel schedule now includes China, India, Brazil and Africa; these are all places that simply weren't on the radar the last time I was at Merck. I commute between Boston and New Jersey and have offices in both locations.

"There are aspects of academia and academic life that I miss. But I find that the work I do now takes advantage of all my past experiences in medicine. There is the opportunity to have real impact on human health. My responsibilities include representing the interests of patients and medicine inside the company, providing counsel to the CEO and board on medical issues, patient safety and providing advice with regard to initiatives in the emerging medical regions of the world and to the corporate social responsibility programs. And there are several trips per year to Washington on matters of policy."

John Borek '71 is writing a college memoir called *Collegiate.*

Joe Chasnoff writes, "I've had a satisfying and financially successful life making cabinets, furniture, gifts and art out of wood. I spend a lot of time on human rights issues and presently I'm involved in promoting home rule for Monroe County, W.Va., in order to ban hydraulic fracturing here. My two daughters live and work in New York State."

In a May 16 article on databases used by pharmaceutical companies to track prescribing practices of individual doctors, *The New York Times* included a quote from **Jerry Avorn**, who is described as "a professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School and a pioneer of programs for doctors aimed at counteracting the marketing efforts of drug makers."

Mark Rosenzweig, the Frank Altschul Professor of International Economics and director of the Economic Growth Center at Yale, has been elected as a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Mark is a development economist who pioneered the use of microeconometric methods for studying the causes and consequences of economic development.

Good columns require input from classmates, and I'd appreciate hearing from you with personal or professional news, or your views on our College years. Hearing from you now would be a big help.

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I am writing these notes as I look out to the sea on Paros, a Greek island in the Aegean Sea. My wife and three grown children are here and we are enjoying what may be one of our last "only immediate family" vacations together. The weather, food and company are glorious!

Lew Lane reported the following summer news: "While other classmates are toying with the idea of slowing down or retiring all together, I have actually signed on for something new and more to do.

"Starting in 1980, after I finished orthopedic surgery and hand surgery training, I was a hand surgeon in private practice in an academic setting at North Shore and LIJ on Long Island. That changed dramatically in October 2011, when I signed on to the new joint venture medical school opened by the North Shore-LIJ Health System and Hofstra. I joined the newly renovated and expanded full-time orthopedic department. The key attraction for me was

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being appointed program director of the orthopedic surgery residency and the orthopedic faculty member overseeing orthopedic education of students in the new medical school. In this position I do research, oversee hand surgery for the hospitals and residency, mentor residents in many aspects of their training, help put together curricula for the new medical school and, of course, still take care of patients in my job as hand surgeon (got to pay for it somehow).

"Because of this, I've also gotten even more involved in the national hand surgery and orthopedic surgery worlds. Technically this means more hours of 'work' for me but, honestly, much of this is not work at all. Rather, I am doing many new things that I find exciting and stimulating. I liked what I was doing before I took this position, but I love what I'm doing now. When others our age are thinking about slowing down, that's the furthest thing from my mind.

"I've been blessed on the home front, too. My wife, Nancy, and I have been married 34 years and are wonderfully happy. Nancy is in her fourth salaried career (in addition to the unpaid motherhood career), currently as a toy buyer at a local independent bookstore. Our daughter is a fourth-year ADA in Manhattan and married to, of all people, an orthopedic surgery resident; our son is a business consultant for PWC in its capital market division. We enjoy family time at home, on the golf course, on our little sailboat and by going to 'hot' new restaurants that the kids find in Manhattan. Life has been good to us. I am humbled by and so grateful for the good fortune that we have had."

Len Levine reported that he attended Dean's Day in June and particularly enjoyed the informal gathering of alumni on hand.

Semi-retired, having semi-completed a career as an independent, investigative journalist (*Rolling Stone*, *The Nation*, *Mother Jones* and so forth) and author, **Bob Dreyfuss** lives at the beach in Cape May, N.J., with his wife, Barbara. He writes, "Visitors looking for a weekend at the beach, especially classmates, are welcome. We bounce back and forth between Cape May and New York City. Our son, Justin, lives in Chicago, and our daughter attends Montclair State University."

What's Your Story?

Letting classmates know what's going on in your life is easier than ever. Send in your Class Notes!

ONLINE by clicking college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

EMAIL to the address at the top of your column.

MAIL to the address at the top of your column.

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Arvin Levine writes, "I have joined Teradata, a leading data warehouse company, after three years on the other side at Credit Suisse. I took advantage of some 'enforced' down time to march with other '71 alumni at Class Day in May. We were a random sampling, I think, mostly sharing our gray hair and memories of CC and John Jay Hall."

John Borek says, "I'm writing a college memoir called *Collegiate*. Here's an excerpt:

"'When I was 11, my parents sent me to a Boy Scout camp in the North Country of New York State. Neither they nor I knew what summer camp was. To my father, camp was the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s, where he was uprooted to the Blue Mountains for nine months because his mother could no longer feed him. To my mother, who never went to high school, it was an opportunity to display her domestic skills to the scoutmasters. Mom packed my duffel bag with 1) a folding stool; 2) a well-gowned and bejewelled Infant of Prague to watch over me in the woods; 3) a canister set — coffee, tea, sugar and salt in descending sizes; and 4) a cookbook — the kind you give to brides. I quickly fell into a marginal existence.

"'Preparations for college were along these lines. The canister set and infant had been replaced by objects with greater functionality — a portable television set, a hernia-inducing IBM Selectric typewriter, three floor lamps, a driftwood-framed portrait of my mother and me that longed for the sea, a calendar and pen set made of marble and brass, a travel alarm, a mantel clock, a cookie jar masquerading as a drum majorette, a black vase with black fabric flowers and several suitcases full of underwear. I was a hick. I was a hick in an Ivy League School. I was a hick in an Ivy League School in the most sophisticated city in the world.

"'I was assigned to Carman Hall, the 'new' dormitory. The old Columbia dormitories looked like orphanages. You could see the ghosts of desperate abandoned sophomores floating behind their windows. The *new* dormitory, however, was more closely and more aptly modeled after a state prison. A concrete block structure with a brick façade and interiors painted in an institutional sea foam, it was brutalist in a way that [Ludwig] Mies van der Rohe would never have imagined.

"'My shared room was part of a suite, but it was a suite in name only. The suite had a bathroom, a useless hallway and two rooms. The rooms each contained two student prisoners. The prisoners slept on metal cots that were as far away from each other as a lack of desire for intimacy would dictate. In the fronts of the rooms were built-in plywood armoires that were intended to hold our intimates. And there were two plywood closets. The plywood was not a design element. It was just the cheapest material available in an era before Mr. Seconds. We were not worthy of fine-grained veneer. We were temporary immigrants to this great world of the intellect. We lived in student steerage.'"

Duncan Darrow's brother, Peter Darrow '72, was well known to many in our class. Duncan writes, "Peter died on May 19, 2013, of complications related to his four-year battle with multiple myeloma. He died surrounded by his entire family, including me; his daughter, Meredith '04; his wife, Denise; son, Peter Jr.; and two friends with whom he rowed 40 years before, Paul DeMartini '72 and John Mulligan '72.

"After graduating from the College, Peter obtained an advanced degree at Trinity College, Oxford, and then graduated from the University of Michigan Law School, where he was elected to its *Law Review*. Peter then returned to New York City, where he embarked on a successful career as a corporate lawyer, including a partnership at Mayer, Brown & Platt and, toward the end of his career, at DLA Piper.

"While at Columbia, Peter lived for three years in the Alpha Delta Phi fraternity, his beloved 'AD.' Peter was elected president of AD and in his mid-30s became active in the AD alumni group, spearheading its reacquisition of the fraternity house from the Columbia housing authority. With its independence assured, AD had a renaissance and Peter was actively involved in guiding the house's renovation.

"Peter also was chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Cambodia Trust, which for some 30 years has treated victims of land mines that continue to explode, unexpectedly, across the Cambodian countryside.

"In 2001, the Darrow brothers, following our mother's death from cancer, started Fighting Chance, a free-of-charge counseling center on the eastern end of Long Island for those diagnosed with cancer. Those wishing to do so may send a donation in Peter's memory to Fighting Chance, PO Box 1358, Sag Harbor, NY 11963 (fightingchance.org)."

If you are not receiving the '71C eNews and would like to, please email me.

Remember back 46 Septembers ago, and the feelings we had, including of adventure, as we entered Columbia College. *We are still connected.*

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Several classmates have proud news to report regarding their children. **Steve Fleet** notes that his daughter Julia graduated as a D.O. (osteopathic physician) from the University of New England and plans to start a family practice residency at UMass Memorial Medical Center in Worcester. Steve's daughter Jessica is a registered echocardiography technician recently graduated from Bunker Hill Community College in Boston and still looking for a job. So if you know of an opening. …

John Miller is taking his youngest daughter, Becca, to Johns Hopkins this fall, where she will start her freshman year with plans to major in biomedical engineering. His other daughter, Sarah, also is interested in the sciences; she recently earned her doctoral degree in physical therapy at Ohio State, which is where his son, Adam, earned an M.B.A. Notes John, "I can actually understand what he does — ha!"

In June, I spotted **Josef Stern** around the neighborhood; it was great to see him again. With Josef was his son, Rafi, who was looking forward to his wedding the following week. Josef teaches philosophy at Chicago and for several years has lived in Jerusalem (and you think you have a long commute). He works in two main areas: contemporary philosophy of language and medieval philosophy, especially Jewish and Arabic philosophy. Last year, Josef visited Shandong University in China, where he spoke on Maimonides and medieval Jewish thought.

Jeffrey Laurence plays a prominent role in a documentary on the early days of AIDS, *The Battle of AmfAR*, which was selected for Robert Redford's Sundance Film Festival last December. HBO bought it and will air it early in December this year. It also was selected for the

Tribeca Film Festival, where it was given a red carpet opening. (Its co-directors already have won two Oscars and had a feature film come out this summer, *Lovelace*, about the *Deep Throat* star Linda Lovelace.)

Gregory Doane, a psychiatrist in California's San Fernando Valley, was at Columbia this spring, joining alumni of the Columbia University Singers "in living through music our own Columbia fun and nostalgia, including concerts in Puerto Rico, with members from the 1960s on. I was looking for roommates Steve O'Connor '74, noted poet and author who teaches writing in Columbia's M.F.A. program, and David DiJohn '74, who paralleled my path and became a pediatrician. Saw **Tom Bonczar.**"

In addition, Greg recalls, "I was a waiter at College Inn, a campus guide and a taxi driver for spare money. Life then was terrific, and revisiting Columbia is enriching as hell."

Jazz pianist **Armen Donelian** and his wife, Rose, recently returned from their second visit to St. Lucia, "where the snorkeling (our favorite mutual pastime) is great." In addition, he reports, "I'm working on an album for release later in 2013 that will feature my solo piano arrangements of songs by Sayat-Nova, an 18th-century troubadour. I recently finished my 25th year of adjunct teaching in The New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music program and my 20th year in the William Paterson University Jazz Studies Program in its music department. When I reflect on my time at Columbia, I'm humbled with gratitude for the pivotal opportunities it afforded me to study, network and grow in a first-class school and city, and to develop lifelong friendships with several classmates and professors." You can view Armen's performance clips at youtube.com (search for his name) and find more information at armenjazz.com. [Editor's Note: See profile in Summer 2012 *CCT*.]

Finally, some sad news: **Peter Darrow** passed away on May 19. According to his obituary in *The East Hampton Star*, Peter, who rowed competitively while at Columbia, could often be seen in his shell in Sag Harbor Cove. A graduate of University of Michigan Law, Peter was a partner in the firm of DLA Piper, with special expertise in foreign debt financing. Those of you who have been back for reunion know that Peter was active in planning the event and was a regular presence. His ashes will be spread in Sag Harbor, where his family has a compound. Memorial donations have been suggested for Fighting Chance, a Sag Harbor-based program that Peter started with his brothers and friends and that offers free counseling for people with cancer (PO Box 1358, Sag Harbor, NY 11963).

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Those who missed our 40th reunion (I, unfortunately, among them) missed a great time. We had 50 '73ers in attendance, purportedly the most ever. Highlights included a College/Barnard/Engineering '73 reception at the Columbia University Club of New York, in Midtown; a tour of the High Line Public Park led by landscape architect **Steven Cantor** (see the May/June 2010 *CCT*); an evening reception at Cellini in Midtown; an address (to all classes) by **Eric Holder** '76L; a luncheon with guest speaker Alan Brinkley, the Allan Nevins Professor of American History and Provost Emeritus, on the presidency of JFK; and a dinner with guest speaker **Ronnie Heifetz,** who founded the leadership center at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard.

Many thanks to **Mike Byowitz** for reporting in my stead! Kudos especially to the Reunion Committee — Mike, **Steven Cantor, Rich Canzonetti, Steve Flanagan, Greg Gall, Marc Jaffe, Don Jensen, Bob Pruznick, Steve Sims, Jim Thomashower, Ray Vastola** and **Lou Venech.** For a photo of those who attended our Saturday dinner and a list of registrants, go to college.columbia.edu/cct/summer13/features4.

Joe Seldner '73 climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro with his brother.

In non-reunion news, **Joe Seldner** climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro with his brother. Joe has shifted from movie production into TV but is occupied mostly with writing, speaking and executive communication.

Mike Byowitz's daughter, Suzanne '13, joined the ranks of alumni progeny from '73. This also includes the sons of **Bob Pruznick** and **Howard Gould,** who both graduated in 2012.

Sam Radin married Sara Nelson in May. Sam is the president of an insurance advisory service in Manhattan and is a founding board member of the Norman Mailer Writers Colony in New York City.

I was in Washington, D.C., in June and had lunch with Nat Heiner '72, a founder of the music group Sha Na Na, former head resident of Furnald and all-around good guy. Nat has been married to Liz Kingma for 19 years, and by the time this is published his youngest will be (gulp) 11. Nat is the CTO of Northrop Grumman. So for those of you who didn't know, he is alive and teching.

Start making plans for our 45th! Hasta.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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By the time you read this, a momentous occasion in Columbia's nearly 260-year history will be taking place: The external structure of the nine-story Jerome L. Greene Science Center will be virtually completed. What makes this most significant is that it is the first major building in Columbia's new, 17-acre Manhattanville campus, which stretches from 125th Street to 133rd Street, Broadway to 12th Avenue.

Soon to follow as part of the first phase of the project (which will keep morphing until 2030) are the construction of buildings for the Business School, the Engineering School, the School of the Arts and SIPA. I hear talk of new dorms, restaurants, jazz clubs and the like that will create a robust extension of the Morningside Heights campus we all knew. The 40th Reunion Committee is looking into arranging tours of the area and perhaps even holding an event at the site.

Speaking of our 40th reunion, I hope you have blocked out Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1, 2014 (and perhaps a few days on either side) to be back on Morningside Heights with the guys with whom you shared so much. Have you shown your family the dorms and classrooms where you spent your "wonder years"? Where you protested against/for the Vietnam War? The route you used during the "streaking" craze? Tom's Restaurant is still there, waiting to serve you a delicious cup of "creamo"!

The Class of '74 also could use your help on the Reunion Committee. We need volunteers to make a small time commitment to contact a handful of classmates, either in your area, your profession or from some group you were involved with while on campus. A short phone call is often all it takes to get a classmate to show up — and higher attendance makes reunion better for everyone. Send me an email or contact one of the Alumni Office staffers listed at the top of the column if you can spare a few moments to help.

Here is a father-son Class Note where both have remarkable recent achievements. As age has its privileges, it is only proper to start with the father, Dr. **Mark Lebwohl.** Mark is the chairman of the Department of Dermatology at Mount Sinai Hospital in NYC. He also is chairman of the Medical Board of the National Psoriasis Foundation and was recently elected president of the American Academy of Dermatology.

Mark needs to wear all these hats to be able to make endless tuition payments for his son, Andy Lebwohl '04, '07L. Andy's four years at the College didn't come cheap, but then neither did his three years at the Law School. All must have seemed worth it when Andy joined the law firm of Dewey & LeBoeuf in NYC. Andy discovered, however, that the life of an associate had a "crushing workload" and "there was more I wanted to be doing," so he left to earn his M.B.A. at Yale — and thus two more years of Ivy tuition. (As an aside, ironically, Andy did corporate bankruptcy and insurance regulatory law at Dewey & LeBoeuf — ironic because the firm itself went bankrupt in 2012, well after Andy had left.)

While a fellow at the Yale Entrepreneurial Institute in 2011, Andy developed a business plan that combined two of his interests: karaoke and comic book superheroes. Thus was born, in 2012, Karaoke Heroes, a karaoke bar with a superhero theme in downtown New Haven, Conn. Reviews have been great, and Andy plans to expand as a chain of karaoke bars in other college towns. Sounds like those nine or so years of tuition might actually pay off!

As one of the kids of our classmates leaves the law, at least one other is diving into the pond. Andrew Blumenthal, son of Dr. **Steve Blumenthal** (pediatrician in Portland, Maine), spent the summer as an intern at Latham & Watkins, the NYC mega-law firm. We'll have to wait to see how this other Andrew, who is another son of a doctor, likes the law. (I do seem to recall that Andrew is an accomplished concert pianist, so you never know!)

An update came in from Dr. **Alan Rosenberg** in Chicago. He

says, "I'm alive, well and recently celebrated my 35th wedding anniversary. I very much enjoy my work in clinical and pharmacy policy for Wellpoint (the parent company of many health insurance firms around the country)."

I hope to get more info from Alan for a future column.

As some of you guys are too busy or too lazy or too modest (you can choose) to send updates, I've taken to checking for leads on my Facebook page. This has proven especially fruitful of late. Here is this edition of "Facebook Factoids" (mostly fact-checked by getting in touch with the classmate involved):

After seeing a picture of **Tim Marcovy,** who lives in University Heights, Ohio, at the Western Reserve Rowing Association, I contacted Tim and found he is an active crew member and coach for the group. He remains a law partner with Willacy, LoPresti & Marcovy in Cleveland. Tim adds, "Thanks for checking in. Don't have to troll the obits yet."

I also saw a picture of **Ed Berliner,** who lives in West Orange, N.J., with his granddaughter, and found out she is his fourth grandchild (can anyone beat this?). Ed retired from Bell Labs 10 years ago and has since joined Yeshiva University as director of science management and a clinical professor of physics. He emailed, "Any hope of very early retirement ended after this last Passover, when our daughters-in-law said I needed more bedrooms if I wanted the families of all three sons to join me during the holidays. So I just added onto the house. Now it looks like retirement is still a few years away."

I thank Ed for his 30 years of interviewing applicants to the College.

Some Facebook postings didn't require any fact-checking. **Ken Krug** (CFO of The Asia Foundation in San Francisco) added a picture taken at his son Joshua's graduation from Harvard Divinity School. Dr. **Peter Zegarelli** (dentist in Tarrytown, N.Y.) had a photo from his daughter Clare's graduation from the Taylor Institute for Global Enterprise in Switzerland (she earned an M.S. in international management). Dr. **Burt Rochelson** (chief of obstetrics at the North Shore University Hospital on Long Island) shared a picture of his son, Ellis, with his new fiancée. **Mark Mogul** (president of Mogul Technology in Port Washington, N.Y.) posted shots from when he walked his daughter, Perri, down the aisle at an outdoor wedding on Long Island in June.

Timothy Greenfield-Sanders (portrait photographer and videographer in NYC) added to his series of HBO documentaries on the lives of minority groups when *The OUT List* aired on June 27, the 44th anniversary of the Stonewall riots in NYC, which many say marks the start of the gay liberation movement in the United States. Timothy, who began the series in 2008, combines portrait photographs and video interviews to give greater understanding of the world; in making the films, he has spoken with prominent members of the black, Latino and, now, gay segments of our society.

Another classmate involved in the arts, but at the local level, is **Darryl Downing.** As proprietor of the marketing company I-AM-HARLEM, he promotes small businesses and cultural institutions in Harlem. Darryl handles publicity for events from "Silicon Harlem Presents Gigabit Harlem" (produced by the Harlem Business Alliance) to those sponsored by the Harlem Arts Alliance.

From the Northwest, in the shadows of Microsoft, comes news from **Jim Pleasants.** Our Bellevue, Wash., classmate (who runs his own law practice) says, "I'm busier than usual because I am president of the United States Curling Association, important to the roughly 16,000 curlers in the U.S." Who knew there were so many devoted to pushing massive granite stones across ice rinks?

Since 1998 curling has been an official Olympic sport, which means Jim will be off to the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, in February. He added that his elder son, Chris, is a programmer for Amazon in Seattle and his younger son, Nick, recently finished his first year of law school at the University of Washington, also in Seattle.

Albie Hecht, who lives in Montclair, N.J., began at WKCR his freshman year. Little did he know that this would lead him to a media career that includes founding SPIKE TV ("the network for men"), being president of Nickelodeon Entertainment and producing some of Paramount's biggest films (such as *The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie* and *The Rugrats Movie*). His works have received numerous Academy Award nominations.

These days Albie splits his time between being CEO of Worldwide Biggies, a digital entertainment studio that creates original multimedia projects, and his work with a nonprofit film production company called Shine Global. Founded in 2005 by Albie and his wife, Susan MacLaury, the company, according to Wikipedia, is "dedicated to ending the abuse and exploitation of children worldwide through the production of documentary films and other media that raise social awareness and effect political change."

Shine Global's first film, *War/Dance,* tells of the plight of children growing up in a war zone in northern Uganda. It was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature in 2008. Its second feature-length documentary, *Harvest Zone,* highlighted the 400,000 migrant worker children in America. Profits from the productions are funneled back to organizations that are dedicated to helping the children featured in the Shine documentaries.

There you have it. Stories of our kids leaving the law while others are just entering. Classmates celebrating the engagement, marriage and graduation of their offspring. And we witness the vibrancy of a class that continues to be creative and to contribute to our society. Make sure to block off time in your schedules to come back for reunion. You'll get to hear a lot more stories than I can squeeze into these columns and also see the start of the new Manhattanville campus!

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Commencements, reunions and Dean's Day all have passed, locally or more broadly, depending on your friends, families and others. If you follow Columbia, you see lots about them in the Columbia media. And if you are one of those readers, you already know that **Ira Malin** was one of the 10 recipients of the Alumni Medal at this year's Commencement. I got to know Ira when he co-chaired Orientation '73 with Eve Szabo Thaler '75 Barnard and I was a member of the personnel committee, working under the leadership of Penny Liberatos '74 Barnard. (The next year, I chaired the personnel committee for Orientation '74 with Steve Eichel '76 and Robin Greene Hagey '76 Barnard.) Dean's Day brought **Bob Schneider** to campus, and Bob reported seeing Dr. **Louis Dalaveris** at the sessions with comp lit professor Julie Crawford and U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, '76L. Bob also attended the Society of Columbia Graduates luncheon on Dean's Day.

Paul Argenti '75 was recently quoted in the *New York Post* on NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg's advisory choices.

Various news media turn to **Paul Argenti,** professor of management and corporate communication at Dartmouth Tuck School of Business, for insight. He was recently quoted in the *New York Post* on NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg's advisory choices. Though he describes himself as a lifelong New Yorker, Paul also has taught as a visiting professor at the International University of Japan, the Helsinki School of Economics, Erasmus University, Ray University and Singapore Management University. Paul is an English mastiff owner, Yankees fan, and food and wine expert.

In a *New York Post* article on unions and the mayoral race, former MTA labor negotiator **Gary Dellaverson** pointed out the "unsustainability of costs" of current union retiree benefits. Regarding pensions, he said, although there is $9 billion budgeted for the next year, the cost will far overreach that amount. "It wasn't sustainable at 4½ [billion]," he notes.

Now working for Greater Media (owners of WMMR, WMGK, WPEN and WBEN-FM), **Jim Dolan** lives in Philadelphia, across the street from The Franklin Institute and The Barnes Foundation (the new one), in the old Board of Public Education building — a deco delight with 12-ft. ceilings and other original features. Jim and his wife, Yasmin, recently returned from a trip to Italy. They started on the Amalfi Coast, then moved on to Positano, where Jim said he channeled his "inner goatness." (Did you ever get to the cans, Jim?) Next was Capri, then on to Pompeii, where they were amazed by its expanse, and finally to Rome, where they saw the new *Gatsby* (in English with Italian subtitles). Jim said, "Just had to do it, *vecchio mio* [old sport]!"

If you don't follow Jim on Facebook, you should — some of the pictures he posts are a riot!

A founding partner of the law firm Falcon & Singer, **Raymond Falcon** advises clients in matters of estate planning, probate and administration of decedents' estates, concentrating in planning for families with special-needs members. He recently was a co-presenter of the seminar "Trusts 101" at a National Business Institute seminar in White Plains, N.Y.

In addition to traveling to Columbia, S.C., for work most weeks, I (**Randy Nichols**) have managed to fit in several personal trips. In April, I went to Wisconsin, where most of my family lives. During Easter weekend, I attended a powerful presentation of *The Hammer,* presented by my brother's Assemblies of God church. We had a big family

reunion on Easter Sunday, and then later in the week my mom and I went to LaCrosse, Wis., where we attended the Collie Club of America National Specialty. While there, I also drove up the Great River Road to Winona, Minn., where I found the gravesite of Norman Nicolais '76E, one of my Columbia roommates. (Sophomore and junior years we lived on 9 Jay, right next to **Terry Mulry.**) On that trip I also saw hundreds of bald eagles (check out the National Eagle Center at nationaleaglecenter.org), sand hill cranes, ice on the Mississippi and much, much more.

Several weeks later, I was in Philadelphia for a Columbia reception at the new Barnes Foundation, along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. After touring the galleries, President Lee C. Bollinger and others gave remarks and took questions. My question: "Will any of the iconic Morningside campus sculptures be moved to the new Manhattanville campus?" The complete answer: "No."

In June, I attended the conference "From Enemies to Allies: An International Conference on the War of 1812 and its Aftermath," at the U.S. Naval Academy. A scholarly conference with more than 150 participants from the United States, United Kingdom and Canada, it included various lectures and field trips covering many of my current passions: the War of 1812 and the growth of U.S. sea power, both in the nascent U.S. Navy and the fleet of privateers that harassed the mighty British Navy in many battles, on the high seas and our Great Lakes. (The War of 1812 was "the war no one wanted, no one won and that changed nothing," according to many historians.) If you recall from last year, I'm also passionate about sailing vessels — from the Class A Tall Ships (the U.S. *Eagle*, Brazil's *Cisne Blanco* and Germany's *Gorch Folk II*), through the Class Bs (like the *Pride of Baltimore II* and the privateer *Lynx*) and the small (like the schooner *Lady Maryland*, the skipjack *Sigsbee*, the classic yacht *Elk* or the Chesapeake Bay log canoe *Daisy Bell*) to the tiny things (sailfish, Bermuda dinghy or Thistle) that I sailed on the Chesapeake Bay when I was growing up. If any of these magnificent vessels come your way, please visit (and support!) them.

Ed Pagani is CEO of LGC North America, which focuses on customers in forensic science; pharmaceutical and biotechnology research; development and quality control; food chain and environmental surveillance and safety; and life science, genomics, proteomics and basic research.

This spring, the American Bankruptcy Institute gave **Robert Reilly** its publication of the year award for his book, *A Practical Guide to Bankruptcy Valuation*. He received the award in April at the 31st annual meeting of the ABI at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in National Harbor, Md. Robert has been married to Dr. Janet Steiner Reilly '75 Barnard for 38 years. They have three children: Ashley '06 Barnard, Brandon and Cameron. Robert and Janet live in Barrington Hills, a suburb of Chicago.

After what he characterizes as "a staggering 28-plus years of covering culture" at *The Village Voice*, Michael Musto '76 has moved on.

Samuel M. Shafner is a partner at the Boston law firm of Burns & Levinson and chairs its International Practice Group. In February he was the sole American speaker in Brussels at the European Private Equity and Venture Capital Association's kickoff to its new corporate venture capital subgroup. In April he led a panel of "funds of funds" at a Montreal venture capital conference. He hasn't spoken in the U.S. since June 2012, when he chaired a life sciences venture capital conference in Boston, but he has more speaking events scheduled for this fall. Wife Rosalyn Weiss Shafner '74 Barnard works for Northrop Grumman. Two of their four children are married (one in Baltimore, one in Israel), and they have five grandchildren.

This was a big spring for **Bob Schneider** and his wife, Regina Mullahy '75 Barnard. First, they were in Philadelphia for the wedding of son James to Claudia Patane. Eugene Rice '76 and wife Jeanne Kolva and Dr. Steven A. Fiamengo '76 and wife Teri Murdock attended and were seated with Bob and Regina. (Geno, Dr. Steve and Bob all lived at Schuyler Hall in their freshman year.)

I couldn't make the wedding but joined Bob and Regina in Philly during Penn's Commencement and reunion weekend. Their daughter, Margaret Veronica (always just Meg to me!), was one of the graduates and also won numerous awards. James and Claudia, just returned from their honeymoon in Italy, joined us for dinner. We had an enjoyable day together — and probably the "easiest" day of the weekend for the Schneiders! On Friday, they also attended several of Meg's events and some of Bob's reunion events. On Saturday, in between meals and visits, Bob had a short business engagement, and so Meg took Regina and I to the Institute of Contemporary Art. On Sunday and Monday, they were all over, culminating in the Penn Commencement at Franklin Field with Vice President Joseph Biden giving the commencement address. On a pure business note, Bob's firm, Cuddy & Feder, was recently named one of the New York area's top-ranked law firms in 2013, based on overall ratings with Martindale-Hubbell.

Joseph Tato is the U.S. head of DLA Piper's Projects and Infrastructure Practice Group and is a partner in the New York office. Joe represents independent power producers, equity investors, project sponsors, financial institutions and governments in developing and financing of power, oil and gas, LNG, water and wastewater, telecommunications, waste management and other infrastructure projects in the U.S., Africa, Latin America and Europe. He also represents sponsors and financial institutions in mergers and acquisitions, restructurings and workouts in the energy and infrastructure areas. In April, Joe moderated the panel "Project Finance for a Changing Power Supply" at the Platts 28th annual Global Power Markets Conference in Las Vegas.

In addition to all that he does for Columbia, **Richard Witten** serves on the board of Harlem Children's Zone. President Barack Obama '83 called it "an all-encompassing, all-hands-on-deck, anti-poverty effort that is literally saving a generation of children."

Keep the cards and letters coming so I can continue to love writing these Class Notes! We can and do make a difference. Go Lions!

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I'll open this installment with a plea for news. Please take five minutes to let the rest of us know what's happening with you: job, family, your kids' accomplishments, travel, visits with other '76ers, shout-outs to classmates and reminiscences about our time on the campus. Email is best, though you can use either address above or *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Robert Bressman has become a director at the law firm of Goulston & Storrs in New York. He previously was a partner at the law firm of Willkie Farr & Gallagher.

Patrick H. Griffin '80 P&S has been appointed chief medical officer at Synergy Pharmaceuticals, a developer of drugs to treat gastrointestinal disorders and diseases. He did a residency in internal medicine at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, then a fellowship in gastroenterology at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. Before joining Synergy, he was on the faculty of P&S.

Tony Anemone writes that after 10 years of mostly administrative work (chair of foreign languages and literatures; associate dean for faculty affairs) at The College of William and Mary and The New School, "I am happy to report that I have returned to full-time teaching and writing. The high point of this past year was the publication of *I am a Phenomenon Quite out of the Ordinary: The Notebooks, Diaries and Letters of Daniil Kharms*, edited and translated with Peter Scotto '75."

After what he characterizes as "a staggering 28-plus years of covering culture" at *The Village Voice*, **Michael Musto** has moved on. He writes, "I assure you my future will still be filled with writing about movies, theatre, nightlife and everything else that I've always immersed myself in. I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to run free and explore topics I cared about so passionately."

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Once again, it's been quiet out there. I hope to have things to report soon. Remember, we keep track of such life passages as publications, awards and recognitions; promotions and retirements; kids' college admissions and graduations; and sightings, memories and reflections. Or, even better: Ask yourself what you would be interested to learn about your classmates, then send me that sort of info about yourself! You can use either address at the top of the column, or *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Peace out.

78

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Kudos to everyone who worked on the 35th reunion; it was better

than ever to see folks and to see the campus shine.

I received many comments on the weekend's activities. Dr. **Alex Demac** writes, "The reunion was absolutely delightful. The best part was simply connecting with classmates, old friends and new, at the various events. I am grateful to the Columbia staff and Reunion Committee for putting together a fantastic program, from the walking tour with Professor Kenneth Jackson to dancing on Low Plaza. Thanks, too, to **Ric Burns** for his fascinating presentation at the class dinner."

Paul Phillips writes, "I pulled an Ivy League hat trick during reunion. That Friday afternoon I left work at Brown, drove down with my family to attend the reunion dinner, then continued on to Princeton where, the following afternoon, we, including my wife, Kathryne Jennings, attended a wonderful production of *Into the Woods* at the McCarter Theatre Center; many cast members were former students of hers, mine or both of us."

James "Huck" Hill says, "My wife, Kristi Pfister Hill '78 Barnard, and I arrived on campus Friday night; Kristi attended her class dinner high up in the Sulzberger building and I joined the 1978 dinner crew in Low Library. The CC '78 faithful at Low had a fun-sized group, and at dinner music man **Steve Bargonetti** gave us a stellar, solo performance on his gorgeous Martin guitar. Steve delivered one killer set after another of jazz, rock and funk anthems, and we just chilled. Steve ended the night with an epic version of *The Star-Spangled Banner* that electrified and tapped into everybody's inner Hendrix. As his guitar echoed off the walls of Low, I mused, has anyone else ever rocked this anthem in here before? Perhaps a brush with history, and definitely a great night. Hope to see you all at our four-o in '18."

Tom Bisdale, who is still working at Hearst after 30 years, writes, "I spend a lot of time on several nonprofit projects and playing in our community concert band as well as in Ragtime, Dixieland, sax and big band ensembles. The recent reunion was the best in memory, perhaps because I attended more events than before. The coordination of several events with Barnard was welcome after years of trying to do so. During the three nights I participated, I talked at length with classmates, often several times, unlike past years, when everything was rushed on Saturday night. Perhaps most memorable was talking to some recent alumni at the beverage table who, while being most pleasant, seemed to regard me as an ancient historical figure. I guess we are those guys now."

Mark Axinn says, "I was re-elected chair of the New York State Libertarian Party at our annual convention this past spring, and I am pleased that my small party continues to promote peace and individual rights in this age of statism and tyranny from state, national and local governments. Otherwise, for my day gig, I am a partner in a mid-Manhattan law firm, specializing in real estate development and commercial litigation."

Peter Samis '78 spent the summer in Williamstown, Mass., as a Kress Summer Fellow in Museum Education at the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute.

Robert Lewton writes, "I will soon celebrate 30 years as a financial adviser with Merrill Lynch. Feels like yesterday. Live in Millburn, N.J., with my wife and two daughters."

Tom Mariam writes, "Happy 5th of July from Amsterdam, where this morning, in front of our hotel, aptly named Pulitzer, I literally ran into an old friend, David Friend '77; he and his wife, Wendy, are staying at the same hotel and also will be on my and my wife, Alyce's, flight back to NYC. And that was just a few hours after Alyce and I were hosted at a Fourth of July party at the U.S. Embassy in Brussels by Ambassador Howard Gutman '77 and his wife, Michelle. We also had a private visit with him earlier in the week.

"Regarding reunion, my thoughts are how seamlessly we mesh even after 35 years of mostly being apart. The '78 bond is strong. I was honored to give the introductory remarks at our class dinner. It meant a lot to me to be chosen, and I thank those who made that decision. … I was impressed by the participation of our class in a variety of events. The High Line was a highlight with the walk and commentary by Professor Kenneth Jackson. It was a perfect reunion event, giving us an opportunity to explore, learn and socialize at the same time. The reception with Barnard that night was also nice. We should make sure this happens every reunion (and with Engineering, too), as we all went to school together. Perhaps such an event should be the focal point of an evening rather than a complementary function, as it was this year.

"On a more personal note, I broadcast a lot of live updates for Knicks and Ranger playoff games this spring for WFAN and CBS Sports Radio. I always think of my WKCR roots when I do them. It was nice to be on the Rangers beat with *The New York Times* ace hockey reporter Jeff Klein '79."

Donald Simone writes, "I joined Hunton & Williams with three of my former real estate partners from Thacher Proffitt & Wood a year ago. We have been incredibly successful and have added eight real estate associates in the last year.

"I attended the first two nights of reunion and then much of the day on Saturday. The High Line tour with Professor Kenneth Jackson was amazing. He related the changes from NYC in 1978 to now in an incredible way. The one drawback: It was difficult to hear him on the walking tour (the bus ride over when we got stuck in traffic was terrific). The Friday dinner with our classmate serenading us was cool. Saturday was wonderful. I attended one of the [Dean's Day] lectures, the varsity athletics Affinity Reception and the wine tasting — all great. Our class dinner worked, too. Just wished we had more time to hang out with classmates."

Chris Dell writes from Germany, "My life at U.S. AFRICOM is a lot less stressful than anything else I've done for the last decade or more, and I'm trying — with mixed results so far — to join in the culture of fitness that pervades our nation's warriors. Stuttgart itself isn't a terribly exciting town, but it's two hours from everywhere. It's nice to be able to go to Alsace for lunch at a fine *auberge*, or pop down to Munich to catch the Springsteen concert.

"As for reunion, I only attended the class dinner and the party. … I really enjoyed **Ric Burns**' after-dinner talk. And, as I said that evening, I think it's pretty remarkable that between Ric and **Tony Kushner,** the Class of '78 has significantly shaped the perceptions of an entire generation of Americans about the meaning and significance of the Civil War. I'm sorry Jim Shenton '49, '54 GSAS isn't alive to see this part of his legacy. Of course, the real purpose of a reunion is to compare yourself to everyone else and I'm pleased to report that from this perspective it was a smash success. Despite **Teddy Faraone's** hair, I'd still rather be living my life than anyone else's! I hope everyone else felt exactly the same way."

Edward Ferguson writes, "I attended the reunion dinner on Saturday but couldn't stay for the Starlight Reception. The cocktail hour was good for seeing and talking with people but the sit-down dinner was not; a buffet would have kept people moving better. All that said, it was a really good time."

Chuck Meltzer writes, "Attended reunion with some trepidation but am glad I went. … It was nice to see my roommates, **Fred Rosenstein** and **David Freinberg;** friends from 11 John Jay; **Ken Rose; Dean Margolis;** and **Tom Bisdale.** And not to forget good friends Claire Tse '78 Barnard and Amy Gerwitz '78 Barnard. While time and distance may separate us, the bonds made during our College days are strong, and for that I was happy to reconnect with them all."

Peter Samis, "SFMOMA just closed its doors for 2½ years to more than double in size. I spent the summer in Williamstown, Mass., as a Kress Summer Fellow in Museum Education at the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute. Have got a book to write on visitor-centered museum interpretation."

Michael F. Forlenza has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Houston Geological Society for 2013–14. HGS is the world's largest local geological society and was established in 1923. Michael will be the editor for the *HGS Bulletin*.

Gary Pickholz writes, "I became a grandfather! Impossible, as we are only 29, correct? I attended the July 4 barbecue of the American ambassador in Tel Aviv, which is always fun and a chance to meet up with many Columbians. Israeli Ambassador to the U.S. Michael Oren '77 announced at the barbecue he will not seek a second term, and I hope will be down the hall from me at Columbia writing his next book. Recently returned Special Ambassador to the Silicon Valley Akiva Tor, Interim Chairman of the Bank of Israel Karnit Flug '86 GSAS and former (and soon-to-be ambassador) Dore Gold '75, '79 SIPA, '84 GSAS were among those slurping down chili dogs and enjoying the fireworks."

Rob Blank says, "It was great to see all who attended reunion. I am settling into my new job at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Month one was given over almost entirely to meeting and greeting. Among the faculty I found Jack Kleinman '64. Month two promised more of the same.

"As for reunion, the best events were the Professor Kenneth Jackson High Line walk and the pre-tour reception at **Jonathan Freedman**'s home. Thanks much to the Freedmans and to Professor Jackson for their generosity in making these possible. Friday dinner was also great, with thanks due to **Steve Bargonetti** for a fantastic performance. Saturday dinner's highlight was the fact that it was the best-attended

Alumni Sons and Daughters

Sixty-two members of the College Class of 2017 and six members of the Engineering Class of 2017 are sons or daughters of College alumni. This list is alphabetical by the parent(s)' last name.

STUDENT	PARENT
Jemma Armi *Santa Barbara, Calif. • Cate School*	Clement Armi '67
Jason Avigan *Sharon, Mass. • Maimonides School*	David Avigan '85
Samuel Balzac *Jay, N.Y. • Keene Central School*	Frederick Balzac Jr. '80
Olivia Barry *Hoboken, N.J. • Riverdale Country School*	David Barry '87 and Kyra Tirana Barry '87
Daniel Bergerson *Wayzata, Minn. • Breck School*	Shawn Bergerson '87
Rachel Blumenthal *New Rochelle, N.Y. • The Frisch School*	David S. Blumenthal '81
Henry Bram *Bronx, N.Y. • Ethical Culture Fieldston School*	Jonathan Bram '87
Samir Canning *Wellesley, Mass. • Wellesley H.S.*	Robert Canning '81
Noah Zweben * *Potomac, Md. • Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School*	Lynn Charytan '87
Dylan Cooper *Memphis • Margolin Hebrew Academy - Feinstone*	Pace Cooper '85
Ethan Cooper *Memphis • Margolin Hebrew Academy - Feinstone*	Pace Cooper '85
William Cornacchia *Darien, Conn. • Darien H.S.*	Thomas Cornacchia '85
Bradley Davison *Skillman, N.J. • Peddie School*	Henry Davison Jr. '83 °
Jonathan Deluty *Englewood, N.J. • Ramaz Upper School*	Sheldon Deluty '77
Eliza Feinberg *Manhattan Beach, Calif. • Mira Costa H.S.*	Jack Feinberg '72
Megan Felder *Ridgewood, N.J. • Ridgewood H.S.*	Frank Felder '87
Rebecca Fisher *Cherry Hill, N.J. • Cherry Hill H.S. East*	Frederick Fisher '84
J. Christian FitzGerald *Plandome Manor, N.Y. • Friends Academy*	Shawn FitzGerald '80
Jordana Fremed *Teaneck, N.J. • The Frisch School*	Eric Fremed '79
Mira Frenkel *Tucson • Catalina Foothills H.S.*	David Frenkel '83
Lauren Haberman *New York City • Ma'ayanot Yeshiva H.S.*	Sinclair Haberman '78
Yoon Ji Han *Hong Kong • Chinese International School*	Jinduk Han '85
Brynn Harris *Houston • Kinkaid School*	Edward Harris '82
Olivia Harrison *Bronx, N.Y. • Riverdale Country School*	David Harrison '83
Carolyn Ho *Princeton, N.J. • Lawrenceville School*	Geoffrey Ho '83
Danielle Jacobs *New York City • The Hotchkiss School*	Gary Jacobs '85
Madison Jones *Wayland, Mass. • Wayland H.S.*	Clayton Jones '81
Nathan Kim *Mamaroneck, N.Y. • Scarsdale H.S.*	Angela Kim '89
Stephen Koh * *New York City • NEST+m*	Alexander Koh '86
Margot Krisberg *New York City • Professional Children's School*	Brian Krisberg '81
Justin Kung *Chevy Chase, Md. • Montgomery Blair H.S.*	David Kung '84
Matt Landes *New York City • SAR H.S.*	David Landes '77
Emily Lang *Seattle • Lakeside School*	Joseph Lang '85
Kyle Lee * *Madison, N.J. • Madison H.S.*	Chester Lee '79
Jonathan Lesser *East Hampton, N.Y. • Ross School*	Stephen Lesser '66
Simon Levinson *Larchmont, N.Y. • Mamaroneck H.S.*	Felicia Levinson '88
Winston Lin *Poquott, N.Y. • Ward Melville H.S.*	Richard Lin '84
Sally Lindsay *Palm Beach, Fla. • Choate Rosemary Hall*	Charles Lindsay '75
Miranda Litwak *Chappaqua, N.Y. • Horace Greeley H.S.*	Nathaniel Litwak '86
Larissa MacPhee *New York City • Ethical Culture Fieldston School*	Donna MacPhee '89 and John MacPhee '89
Allison Malin *New York City • Horace Mann School*	Ira Malin '75
David Maloof II *Darien, Conn. • Fairfield College Preparatory School*	David Maloof '80
Brandon Mazzeo * *Gulf Stream, Fla. • St. Andrew's School*	Vincent Mazzeo '76
Nicholas Mehmel *New York City • Bronx H.S. of Science*	Robert Mehmel '76
Hayley Mendelson *Miami Beach • Ransom Everglades School*	Eric Mendelson '87
Gregory Momjian *Radnor, Pa. • Radnor H.S.*	Mark Momjian '83
Christine Nelson *Rye, N.Y. • Rye H.S.*	Frank Nelson '85
Annie Ninivaggi *Salt Lake City • Olympus H.S.*	Angelo Ninivaggi '89 and Anne-Marie Wright '89
Emma O'Hanlon *Los Angeles • Brentwood School*	Neil O'Hanlon '72
Alia Padilla *Manhasset, N.Y. • St. Paul's School*	Rafael Padilla '80
Isabel Rothberg *Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y. • Croton-Harmon H.S.*	Adam Rothberg '81
Eitan Rothman * *Los Angeles • Shalhevet H.S.*	Mark Rothman '85
Garrett Ryan *Scottsdale, Ariz. • Wyoming Seminary College Preparatory School*	Denis Ryan '87
Solomon Seckler *Boca Raton, Fla. • Pine Crest School*	Jonathan Seckler '87
Jesse Silbert *Weston, Conn. • The Harvey School*	Richard Silbert '81
Gabriel Raab *East Brunswick, N.J. • Rae Kushner Yeshiva H.S.*	Eric Raab '82
Ravi Sinha *Bethesda, Md. • Georgetown Day School*	Abha Sinha '88 and Pankaj Sinha '86
Brian Solender *Scarsdale, N.Y. • Scarsdale H.S.*	Michael Solender '86
Jeremy Staub *Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. • Ethical Culture Fieldston School*	Arthur Staub '82
Kyle Dartnell-Steinberg *London, England • The American School in London*	Bruce Steinberg '78
Amber Sun *Irvine, Calif. • University H.S.*	Lazarus Sun '81
Maeve Tobin *Potomac, Md. • Winston Churchill H.S.*	Daniel Tobin '82
Nia Hollister-Bernier *Asheville, N.C. • Asheville H.S.*	Christie Tongier '88
George Van Amson *New York City • Trevor Day School*	George Van Amson '74
Nathan Werner * *Long Valley, N.J. • West Morris Central H.S.*	Robert Werner '77
Aaron Yodaiken *Austin • Westlake H.S.*	Victor Yodaiken '78
Jennifer Yu *Glen Head, N.Y. • Jericho Senior H.S.*	Song Yong Yu '87
Lucas Zabotin *Larchmont, N.Y. • French-American School of New York*	Mischa Zabotin '85

* Member of the Engineering Class of 2017
° Deceased

Nine incoming College transfer students are sons or daughters of College alumni.

STUDENT	PARENT
Elizabeth Boylan	Nicholas Boylan '86
Scott Fischbein	Peter Fischbein '60
Suzie Kim	Jong Bum Kim '86
Hannah Lynch	Ralph Lynch '86
Makaylo Van Peebles	Mario Van Peebles '78
Victoria Saia	Vincent Saia '79
James Tenrai	Kevin Wakayama '72
Hannah Weinstock	Peter Weinstock '89 and Lisa Weinstock '89
Ourania Yancopoulos	George Yancopoulos '80

event; it was great to see everyone. Low point was campus housing. Carman still sucks and the price was high for Spartan accommodations. Alumni Office staff was terrific; thanks to everyone!"

Don Guttenplan is "just ending a three-year gig writing about education in Europe for the *International Herald Tribune*. Still writing for *The Nation* and planning to use my newfound free time for writing that feels more like my own and for other projects."

Richard Schloss is "working full-time in my private psychiatry practice in Huntington, (L.I.), N.Y. My wife, Meredith Jaffe '82 Nursing, has a dental practice in Huntington as well. My older son, Bradley, completed his first year at Touro Law in Central Islip, N.Y., and my younger son, Jason, graduated in May from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn with a B.F.A. in communications art."

Ian Silverman writes, "I've been a rabbi at E. Northport Jewish Center on Long Island for 10 years. I recently negotiated a long-term contract with the congregation. Sons Marc and Alan are in or aiming for grad school."

Michael Wilhite '07 Arch. writes, "I returned to Columbia for graduate school in 2006–07 and worked in NYC for the first time afterward. Prior to that I worked with Bill Campbell '62, '64 TC at Intuit and was on the Oakland, Calif., Jack London Aquatic Center board with Robert Kidd '70. My relationship with Columbia during the last 39 years has been wonderful. I continue to be supportive of Columbia activities, events and sports programs, and Columbia alums have been supportive of me. Thank you, Columbia!"

Robert Muirhead of Resources Global Professionals writes, "My wife, Susan, and I enjoyed the ultimate in summer fun with an extended second honeymoon to Hawaii in July. Fabulous sights, wonderful food, lots of sun and sand. Perfect way to celebrate 34 years of wedded bliss with the woman of my dreams."

Henry Aronson says, "Looking forward to beginning pet therapy training with Luna, my 11-year-old Italian greyhound. As a commuter, I didn't have many close friends among my fellow students, so there was no one to see at the reunion so I didn't attend."

As some of you know, I was a candidate for mayor of my hometown, New Haven, Conn., but decided a few months ago that victory was not possible and subsequently pulled out and endorsed another candidate, joining her campaign as co-chair. The stars were just not aligning with many folks in the race and there are no runoff provisions if one candidate is far ahead out of six or seven.

It was great to catch up with everyone at reunion. As many of you said, it was great to see so many classmates and I hope we can manage to find ways to be together before five years slip by. Think about a larger '78 contingent at Homecoming on Saturday, October 19, for starters — we can try to organize a group along with stalwarts **Tom Mariam** and **Fred Rosenberg** in a few weeks.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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First things first: Our 35th Alumni Reunion Weekend will be held Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1, on campus and throughout New York City. It's never too early to save the date; we want as many classmates there as possible. Also, if you'd like to be involved in planning the weekend's events or with fundraising for our Class Gift, get in touch with the appropriate Alumni Office staff member listed at the top of the column. Volunteers are needed!

Andres Alonso ended his six-year tenure as CEO of the Baltimore City Public Schools on June 30 and accepted a five-year term as professor of practice at Harvard Graduate School of Education; he started in July.

John A. Don practices workers' compensation law in San Diego. He manages his own firm and lectures to consumer groups throughout the state.

Howard Green '80 GSAS moved to California in 1989 and is v.p. of marketing at Azul Systems in Sunnyvale. From time to time each year he passes through NYC, either for tech events or to change planes. He has been found by a few classmates from the CU Marching Band and the GSAS history program as well as the Classes of '76, '78 and '79, mostly via LinkedIn. Howard remains amazed by how time flies and how technology helps people get back in touch after 30-plus years. He was married from 1986–06 and his sons, Mark (23) and Chris (20) have busy lives: Mark is an aspiring bassist and songwriter on the East Coast and Chris is a goalie for his college's soccer team in Saratoga, Calif.

Robert Darnell is a professor at The Rockefeller University, an investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and a neuro-oncologist, and now has the additional role of president, CEO and scientific director of the New York Genome Center. At the time of this writing, he was also busy training for the NYC Triathlon in July and hoping to beat his time from last year. Let's hope the run went well for him!

David Hachey writes, "I recently married off my oldest daughter, Lindsay, and it caused me to reflect on many things, including how quickly time passes (it is hard to believe that we graduated nearly 35 years ago). I'm also proud to report that my younger daughter, Carly, began the nurse practitioner program at Columbia after graduating from Hamilton College last year. She's carrying on the Columbia tradition and I couldn't be happier.

"I also recently celebrated my 35th anniversary as a wealth adviser at Northwestern Mutual, so it has been an eventful year."

Dr. **Mark Eberle** is a clinical associate professor of medicine in the Division of Rheumatology at NYU Langone Medical Center.

Robert Davis, president of Davis Design & Development, updates us with exciting news of his marriage in June "to the lovely Alisa Garrett '87 UCLA. Alisa is a talented painter, phenomenal mother of two great children and just crazy enough to spend the rest of her life with me. My son, Louis, who is a film student at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, was best man.

"My great friends **David Braham** and **Tor Braham** attended. I met the Braham brothers on my first day at Columbia. I flew alone from my native Los Angeles in August 1975 to NYC, found my way to campus and finally the second floor of Carman. There I met my roommate, Tor, and his brother, David. We did not immediately like one another. At all. That changed quickly. Some 38 years later we remain great friends."

Thomas Costigan lives in Falls Church, Va., with his wife of more than 32 years, Lucy Buchness. Their son, Nolan, is a senior at Radford University. Tom is a database analyst for Promontory Interfinancial Network in Arlington, Va.

Allan Hoving sends regards to fellow '79ers. Allan, who fondly recalls attending classes in Hamilton Hall and reading the news on WKCR during Phil Schaap '73's Saturday night jazz program, entered book and magazine publishing upon graduation. Now "out of print," Allan earned a master's in online media in 2010 at Quinnipiac University. He has been married for 20 years, has two children (one starting college), lives in Westport, Conn., and works in Old Saybrook.

David Friedman writes that the "only new thing to report is that our son, Daniel '16, completed his freshman year at Columbia and loved every minute of it. He's officially a full-fledged New Yorker as well."

Dr. **Larry DiFabrizio** and his bride, Claudia '80 Barnard (née Martin), recently celebrated their 27th anniversary. In 2012, after close to two decades in a successful private practice in pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine, Larry was appointed director of the Pulmonary Faculty Practice at Mount Sinai Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine Faculty Practice Associates Hospital, where he continues to care for his patients and conduct research. Larry's wife, together with her sister, are principals of Hays Worthington, a wholesale jewelry business engaged in the buying and selling of estate and fine jewelry, with headquarters in New York City. Larry and Claudia are the proud parents of Baxter, who is a junior at Brown. They welcome old and new friends and can be reached at 646-861-1422.

Frank Aquila's daughter, Jillian, will continue the Columbia tradition this fall when she starts her master's at Teachers College. Frank heads the global corporate practice at Sullivan & Cromwell in New York.

Robert C. Klapper: "As of this writing, I have plans this summer to lecture at The Florence Academy of Art. My lecture will be the same one that I gave at The J. Paul Getty Museum to an audience of 1,000 here in Los Angeles and at orthopedic meetings in Boston, Colorado and New York. The talk, 'Michelangelo's Sculptures: How he Manipulated Anatomy,' explains with detailed photographs how the master conveyed complex human emotions by gently manipulating the anatomy.

"The presentation, including the surprise ending where I discover

Andres Alonso '79 ended his tenure as CEO of the Baltimore City Public Schools and accepted a five-year term as a professor of practice at Harvard Graduate School of Education.

something no one has described before, is part of my strong desire to connect my vocation and avocation of surgery and sculpting in marble. The sixth sense we all have developed through the years in our chosen professions is truly the beauty of growing older. Every time I begin an explanation of where this love of art and its connection to science comes from, there is always one answer — it is the shared experience that we all have because Columbia College insisted we study Art Humanities.

"The world is such a different place today than it was during the four years we spent on Morningside Heights, but in many respects nothing has changed at all. I hope each of you reading this column gets to reflect on your own transcendent lessons imparted by the Core Curriculum. Roar, lion, roar!"

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Michael C. Brown
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Congratulations to our baseball team on a historic season that gave us an Ivy League Championship and our first NCAA tournament victory. Coach Brett Boretti has built a program that we can all be proud of, and with a win over New Mexico, our players have proven that we can play with the best of them. **Eric Blattman** traveled to California to watch the games and reported that position-to-position, our team matched up equal or better than our opponents. In fact, two of our guys signed pro contracts, Tim Giel '13 with the New York Yankees and Alex Black '13 with the Kansas City Royals, and our honor roll was extensive. Good job!

I received a nice note from **John Metaxas,** who can be heard in the New York area on WCBS Newsradio 880, where he delivers coverage on finance and other subjects on the weekends. In addition, he practices immigration law at the Sandberg Law Group in Mt. Kisco, N.Y.

Bruce Paulsen and I caught up over a porterhouse steak at STK in the Meatpacking District. Bruce was recently recognized by Chambers USA for his excellence in litigation as part of Seward & Kissel. Always the avid sailor, he and his daughter spent much of the summer on Long Island Sound.

Dave Maloof, long recognized as a "Super Lawyer" in his field of international shipping law, has recently been traveling for another reason: He and his family have been developing recreational facilities for the children at a refugee camp in Lebanon. As a result of his work, he has been consulted by both the State Department and the White House. Most recently, Pax Christi Metro New York honored Dave by creating an annual Maloof Family Young Peacemaker Award for Catholic high school students in the New York metropolitan area.

Joe Ciulla's daughter, Brittany, has relocated to San Diego. **Jay Kutlow** and **Mike Manuche** — be on the lookout!

Finally, congratulations to my daughter, Kate, who was married to Alexander Greeley (a Harvard man) this summer. The Harvard Club has never seen so many Columbia alums in the room, with three decades represented. I thank all my classmates and friends who attended.

Write at one of the addresses at the top of the column, or feel free to call me at the office: 212-373-1007.

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Kevin Fay
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We have three updates.

Michael Strauss reported in from Port Jefferson, N.Y., where he runs his law practice and where he lives with his wife, Marianne, and their three children. Their oldest, Elizabeth, graduated from URI this past May with a B.F.A. in theatre. Their middle child, Matthew '16, is grinding through Contemporary Civilization and thinking of becoming a history major like his father. Their youngest, Caroline, is a high school sophomore and has become a recognized photographer and poet, all the while working at a local restaurant (note: in the world according to Fay, "Children should be employed").

Michael stays in touch with **Joe Sbiroli,** who lives in Locust Valley, N.Y., and whom he sees at his Midtown club.

Michael's law practice is on Main Street in Port Jefferson, in an office building that includes his largest client, who is the area's busiest home builder. For recreation, he can be spotted on the golf course during the warm weather months.

Last winter, Michael attempted to attend the Columbia-Harvard basketball game only to have his plans ruined by a blizzard. As a result of power loss for days, he says he would gladly support any politician in favor of burying the power lines and thus moving into the 21st century.

I had several emails from **Henry Berumen,** hilarious in content, which I doubt *CCT* will permit me to include without some editing. Henry began by scolding me for my support of the losing presidential candidate (as someone who supported Columbia athletics during my years on Morningside Heights, you grow accustomed to losing). The next few emails focused on his encounter with President Barack Obama '83 when they were students. Here is the edited version:

"I was hanging with **Sandy Roberts** (from Antigua) in front of Furnald Hall in spring 1981 … The buzz around the minority students was there was a black kid coming from a college in California who was thinking of transferring to the College as a junior. So Sandy Man (his nickname) and I went to see the guy from Occidental College, who was at the MLK Lounge. … After greetings, he asked a few questions that guys from California ask. My response? 'It's a culture shock, man. No cars, forget about women.' (In spring 1981, relations between Columbia and Barnard were at a nadir.) 'No sunshine in January and February. And if you want to succeed, bury yourself in the stacks at Butler Library. Don't drink on Thursdays at The Pub. And don't eat at Takome deli unless you have no money.' It looks like he took my advice; the rest is history."

I'm re-reading the entire account and still chuckling. You did such a great job selling Columbia, I'm surprised he attended!

Michael Horowitz and his wife, Jeannie Gutierrez, "emptied the nest" and, in the process, moved from Skokie to Bucktown (a neighborhood in Chicago most similar to NYC). His daughter, Maya, is a sophomore studying dance at Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle. Their son, Eli, completed his first year with Teach For America in Oxon Hill, Md., where he teaches Spanish and coaches the girls' basketball team at Potomac H.S. Jeannie is a clinical psychologist specializing in helping families with autistic children.

Michael is ending his third year as the founding president of the TCS Education System, one of only two nonprofit higher education system; it includes three professional colleges (The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, Pacific Oaks College and Children's School, and the Santa Barbara & Ventura Colleges of Law). He would love to hear from others interested in higher education in the United States and internationally, and looks to grow the system in terms of disciplines and locations (mhorowitz@tcsedsystem.edu).

Finally, as I write, I am going to meet up with Steve Wadyka '83 tomorrow night at a bar in Georgetown. Steve is a patent lawyer at Greenberg Traurig. We hope to stimulate the local economy by purchasing a couple micro-brews and reminiscing about our days on Morningside Heights.

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Gents, didn't hear from anyone this period. Given it was summer, I will extend a dispensation but do not vex me again. (A little *Caligula* reference.) I look forward to hearing from you. You can use either address at the top of the column, or *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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Roy Pomerantz
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Our 30th reunion was a resounding success and we set a 30th reunion gift record, raising $620,000. You can see the photo of all who attended the Saturday dinner and the list of everyone who registered at college.columbia.edu/cct/summer13/features4 (go to the class photos). More than 30 Barnard '83 grads attended several of our reunion events.

The following is a collection of news items from conversations throughout the weekend:

Paul Lerner and his partner, Steve, are frequent reunion attendees. They live in Los Angeles and Steve is a music teacher.

Chris Wood wore a handsome Columbia tie. He is a high school Spanish teacher and lives in Massachusetts. His favorite Columbia professor was Wallace Gray '58 GSAS.

Nicholas Paone's daughter, Abigail (16), is a future Broadway star. She has been pursuing musical theatre since preschool. Nick lives in West New Jersey and is a lawyer

Columbia College Alumni on Facebook

Check out the new Columbia College Alumni page!
facebook.com/alumnicc
Like the page to get alumni news, learn about alumni events and College happenings, view photos and more.

representing insurance companies.

David Hershey-Webb and his wife, Amy '84 Tufts, live in Manhattan. Their daughter, Lilly (12), is in the seventh grade at the Salk School of Science. David is a partner at the law firm Himmelstein, McConnell, specializing in DHCR litigation, and is a professional musician. He has been supporting and hosting events for Manhattan borough president candidate Gale Brewer (D-N.Y.). (**Dan Jaffe** says David wrote and posted a song about Anthony Weiner, 'Dumb Guy, Smart Phone,' on YouTube that is a tour de force. He strongly recommends you check it out. My kids and I love it!)

David Einhorn and his wife have two daughters (4 and 6). David is an intellectual property lawyer and wine connoisseur.

Myles Hansen, my 14 Jay floormate, is a talented wrestler. He has an M.B.A. from Washington University and is an antitrust layer with Monsanto. Myles is in contact with 14 Jay floormate **Mark Licht.**

Another 14 Jay floormate, **Peter Simonson,** and his wife, Jane, live in New Jersey. They have a daughter, Melanie '17 Barnard. Peter is an ob/gyn.

Kevin Chapman and his wife, Sharon '83 Barnard, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary by going to a Mets game. Kevin is assistant general counsel at Dow Jones & Company.

Geoffrey Mintz continues to grow his hat company, That Way Hat. His mother (a former professor of education at Teachers College) and father, Norman Mintz (a Columbia executive v.p. when we were students), are both well. Geoffrey's brother, Doug '84, is a physician at the Hospital for Special Surgery in Manhattan.

Gary McCready and his wife, Jane, have a son, Ben, who is a philosophy major at Rutgers. Gary is manager, storage and open VMS at Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corp.

Rob Kahn lives on the Upper West Side.

Carl Faller lives in Columbus, Ohio, and specializes in affordable housing.

Miles Ladenheim is a psychiatrist.

Larry Lester lives in Queens and teaches at the Hunter College Elementary School for gifted children in Manhattan.

Stephen Holtje lives in Brooklyn and writes about sports and jazz. He is also a talented jazz musician.

P.J. Pesce's son, Paolo, took incredible photos of the entire reunion. Please contact me if you would like me to forward them to you. P.J. recently sold a pilot to HBO. He also co-wrote the finale for *Friends*. **Eddy Friedfeld** was his freshman roommate.

David Klein is a psychiatrist to the medical and surgical ward at Jacobi Medical Center. This was the first CC reunion he attended. He is a numismatist.

Seth Farber works in the Justice Department under New York State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman. Seth was a trombone player in the CU Marching Band.

Eric Wertzer is the senior director, international and comparative law programs, at Columbia. Eric comments that with the increase in size of the College and with the College's enhanced selectivity/prestige, some of the character of CC has been lost. Eric has particularly fond memories of the faculty members' accessibility and their emphasis on teaching when we were students.

Othon Prounis is a partner at Ropes & Gray specializing in mergers and acquisitions. He is also a member of the firm's Policy Committee. He has been named one of the Best Lawyers in America from 2005–13. I had not seen him in 30 years but recognized him instantly; he looks the same as he did when he represented our class in the Senate. Othon was a campus leader and tireless Columbia supporter during his tenure at the College. I was thrilled to see him at the cocktail reception and look forward to working with him on class events.

Jonathan Green is senior counsel for the Department of Law for the City of Chicago. He had a terrific time at the Friday dinner at V&T. He particularly enjoyed reconnecting with **Rich Pressman.** Jonathan is in touch with President **Barack Obama** and spoke with him after our 25th reunion. Jonathan reports that Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, '76L and the President have discussed the comparative strengths of CC basketball in the '70s and '80s.

Matt Stedman has been married for 11 years. He and his wife live on the East Side of Manhattan. Their son, Ben, attends The British International School of New York. Matt is in the Wall Street bond business and is the managing director at Seaport Group.

Thomas Johns is e.v.p. and general counsel for The Hampshire Management Group.

George Wilson reports that **Ben Heimsath** recently celebrated his 30th wedding anniversary. Ben lives with his family in Austin, Texas, and has one grandchild. Ben is the principal and managing partner at Heimsath Architects. George also noted that **Stephen Huntley-Robertson, Dion Macellari** and **Michael Cataldo** send their best wishes to the class.

Anthony Marcus is the Paris Club representative for the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Peter Ripin is a litigation partner at the law firm Davidoff Hutcher & Citron in midtown Manhattan. He lives with his wife, Marianne, and his daughters, Abigail (14) and Isabella (12), in Ardsley, N.Y. Peter's cousin is **Peter Simonson. Peter Ripin** also attended Stuyvesant with **Andy Barth.**

Speaking of Andy, his son, Andy Jr. '16, has been named a team leader for the 2013 U.S. men's freestyle World Team by USA Wrestling, the national governing body for the sport in the United States. Our Andy was the team captain for Columbia's varsity wrestling team as a senior in 1982–83 and endowed the Andrew F. Barth Head Coach of Wrestling.

Elliot Sloane sent this update: "Personal: Married to Polly Leider '84 Barnard, a producer at CBS News. About to celebrate 24 years of marriage. Three kids: Jack (21), a senior at Johns Hopkins; Charlie (17), a high school senior at Fieldston; Juliet (15), a sophomore at Fieldston. Professional: Run Sloane & Co., a financial and crisis communications firm (sloanepr.com). Work for a great group of clients: New York Life, AT&T, American Express, Walgreens, Cablevision, Boone Pickens, Elliott Management. Sold the business in April 2010 to publicly traded MDC Partners. Retain a significant minority stake."

John Kiernan is the director of asset management at Invesco Real Estate in Manhattan. He has been married for six years to Catherine Ruvolo '86 Dartmouth. They have two 21-month-old boys and live in Oyster Bay, N.Y.

I almost didn't recognize **Jay Lippman** without the propellers on his head.

Andy Gershon and **Eric Epstein** both generously hosted pre-reunion events at their homes.

Dan Loeb was the keynote speaker at the Saturday class dinner. He reminisced about being a college student at a time when papers were written by hand and the only way to contact your parents was by calling them on the dorm telephone or writing letters. Dan's father recently passed away; he said he found some of the handwritten notes he had sent to his father 30 years ago. Dan also spoke movingly about the friendships he made at Columbia.

Dan Jaffe is a professor at Case Western Reserve University Law School. His sons, Jacob (19) and Micah (17), are both figure skaters and are competing in the U.S. National Championships.

Dr. **Ramon Parsons** and his wife, Constance Vasilas Parsons '83 Barnard, met sophomore year and look forward to celebrating their 27th anniversary. Constance works in property management. Ramon has been a professor at P&S for 17 years. He is also the chairman of the Department of Oncological Sciences at Mt. Sinai. He lives in Manhasset. His son, Richard (23), is a graduate student in Sheffield, England. Daughter Antonia (19) is studying at Johns Hopkins and daughter Paulina is 17.

Robert Drew teaches communications and media studies at Saginaw Valley State University in Michigan. He is married to Amy Keogh '84 Barnard. They have two boys (15 and 17). Robert wrote a book on karaoke.

Atul Khanna '83E completed the 3-2 Engineering/College program. He is single and in the hedge fund business. He lives in Manhattan.

Paul Saputo is director of tennis at The River Club. He is single and lives on the Upper West Side.

Bert Alexis is the senior director, M&A legal group for Ooredoo in Qatar. He interviews prospective Columbia students in Qatar. His children, Kimia (12) and Lucas (6), attend the American school in Qatar.

Wayne Root's daughter, Dakota, recently won the John Harvard award. He also shares: "My book, *The Ultimate Obama Survival Guide: How to Survive, Thrive, and Prosper During Obamageddon,* hit the No. 1 bestseller list in three categories on Amazon: Finance, Economics and Politics. And it hit No. 1 political hardcover bestseller at bookstores across America (according to BookScan). It remained in the Top 5 for 11 weeks.

"I'm also proud to report I was a featured speaker at the business conference Mega Partnering in Los Angeles in June. Other speakers included fashion guru Donna Karan, former Governator Arnold Schwarzenegger and NFL Hall of Famer Michael Irvin of the Dallas Cowboys. Quite a crowd!"

Steve Coleman's daughter, Sarah '16, is a sophomore at Columbia this fall.

Anthony Marcus '83 is the Paris Club representative for the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

My 8-year-old son David's Manhattan travel baseball team, The Spartans, finished its season 16–0 and won the championship game 12–0. His coach is a former professional (Chicago White Sox) and this was his first undefeated team. The team will compete in national tournaments this fall with David playing third base.

Being involved with the 30th reunion was a 2013 highlight for me. I encourage all of you to participate in our 35th.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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Several months ago, yours truly had the privilege of celebrating my 50th birthday with neighbors and friends, including Columbia College alums and quasi-family members Stanley Lupkin '62; Jonathan Lupkin '89, '92L; **Michael B. Ackerman** (flying in all the way from Los Angeles!); Manhasset neighbors Dr. **David Godfried** and Dr. Joe Halio '74; and dear friend Roy Pomerantz '83. Unable to attend but generous with their well wishes were Eddy Friedfeld '83 (who honored me by telling Mel Brooks about my love of his work!), **El Gray** (the right honorable class senator!) and **Jim Weinstein** (who honored me with the responsibility of shipping the lightweight crew's oars to Henley Royal Regatta, held annually on the River Thames near London).

One striking gift presented by Dr. Halio was a 1975 essay by Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig that was published in the *Columbian*. So moved was I by this gesture, and by this remarkable writing (in which he presents his views on the superiority of a Columbia education), that I made a similar gift to Mr. Pomerantz at the class dinner during his 30th reunion … and was it a hit! Hundreds of alums spent a few moments reading, remarking and demanding a copy for their own. (A copy has been scanned and emailed to them, and to you, my classmates — if you didn't get it, please advise.)

Speaking of this event, kudos to the Pomerantz family for hosting one of the best-attended Thursday night events of Alumni Reunion Weekend ever. I hope to emulate this great success next year. Speaking of which, the dates for our 30th reunion are Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. If you'd like to be involved with planning, you can get in touch with one of the Alumni Office staffers listed at the top of the column. Otherwise I encourage you all to block off that portion of your calendar with a big "X" and starting planning your return trip to Morningside Heights.

So now that I'm an *alte kocker* (old fart), you'll excuse me as I sprinkle the following observations with adjectives from my *mamaloshn* (mother tongue) — especially since this year's National Spelling Bee was decided on the spelling of *knaidel/kneydl*, and Class Day speaker and playwright Terrence McNally '60 harkened back to "Columbia's reputation as the Jewish commuter college in the Ivy League."

Indeed, this year for what I believe was the 10th time [Editor's note: Correct!], Class Day featured the Alumni Parade of Classes, at which I was once again honored to represent our class. It's a thrilling experience, with the graduates cheering us as we pass through their ranks with class banner in hand, giving us the rush of a rock star (or something similar: must consult Vampire Weekend). It's immensely rewarding when a classmate such as the aforementioned Dr. Godfried agrees to join and share in what is best described as a *mechiah* (pleasure). It's even more divine when a gaggle of classmates is on hand to represent the class, and undoubtedly the highest degree of *naches* (joy) is experienced by those whose children are attending and/or graduating.

Mazel tov and thanks to **Fred Fisher** (daughters Talia '13 and Rebecca '17), **Kevin Liss** (sons Jeremy '13 and Daniel '16), **Arthur Kohn** (son Samuel '13) and **John Travis** (daughter Cosima '13) for making this year's participation the best ever. Arthur, it should be noted, plays a leadership role in our class fundraising and has done a stellar job in making our class look good!

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At this point in our careers, many of us have, or are about to, switch jobs or careers. And we have several such stories to share this column.

Kevin Kelly has worked in the Bloomberg administration for the last 10 of its 12 years — "lucky enough to be introduced to agency commissioners and other city government senior staff in fall 2003 and, never expecting to stay in government more than two years, I figured it would be an interesting, worthwhile local endeavor that would bring me back to NYC after years of living abroad and give me an opportunity to deploy my operational skills in a new context, the public sector. I was right about all of that, but I underestimated the degree to which I would find a niche in city government as an operations professional, and the extent to which the Bloomberg administration would strive to transform local government, not just through innovative policy or strategy, but through thorough and thoughtful restructuring of the people, processes and technology that comprise service delivery. I came because I was curious and optimistic but I stayed because the work was big, impactful, challenging and, most of the time, without precedent or blueprint.

"My first eight years in city government were spent at the Department of Small Business Services, where I held five different positions leading programmatic units and divisions, strategic planning, and agency operations and technology. My last two years in city government have been with the Mayor's Office — helping to institutionalize (across city government) many of the innovations and programs that we created and implemented during the last decade. Still lots to do and not much more time to do it in! I have worked with some of the most amazing, smart, talented and dedicated people you could imagine. Never in my wildest dreams did I think that in government I would have the longest stretch of time (in my career) with the same employer. Ten years! Never say never, folks.

"I have taught at SIPA for the last five years as an adjunct professor, so while I look forward to returning to the private sector in 2014, I will continue to teach courses at SIPA on public management and fostering innovation in the public and nonprofit sectors. If and when you are in NYC please say hello: kgk13@columbia.edu. It would be great to catch up."

Harold Ullman announced that he joined the Wall Street-based law firm of Wuersch & Gering as a tax partner and will continue to advise foreign and domestic businesses and private clients. WG is a general practice firm with an international focus. It provides a broad range of legal services to foreign enterprises and individuals investing in the United States or transacting business with U.S. companies and to U.S. companies and individuals on domestic and international matters. You can find out more at wg-law.com. Harold resides in Livingston, N.J., with his wife, Stacey, and their three children.

Federal Communications Commission chairman **Julius Genachowski** stepped down from his post on May 17. Julius led the FCC during a time of rapid growth and transformative change in the technology, media and telecommunications sector, particularly around broadband — high-speed Internet. In his remarks announcing his decision, he said, "Over the past four years, we've focused the FCC on broadband, wired and wireless, working to drive economic growth and improve the lives of all Americans. We've taken big steps to build a future where broadband is ubiquitous and bandwidth is abundant, where innovation and investment are flourishing …

"We adopted a landmark overhaul of multi-billion dollar universal service programs, modernizing them from telephone to broadband and creating the Connect America Fund and the Mobility Fund, an unprecedented commitment to broadband infrastructure. To unleash the enormous opportunities of mobile, we pioneered incentive auctions and other cutting-edge spectrum policies. To fuel America's innovation economy, we put in place the first rules to preserve Internet freedom and openness. To drive competition and empower consumers, we opposed and modified transactions where necessary, deployed technology to drive transparency, and took unprecedented enforcement actions. We helped harness the power of digital technologies to give students a better chance, people better health care, and make Americans safer in their homes and communities while also guarding against digital threats and strengthening cybersecurity. Today, America's broadband economy is thriving, with record-setting private investment; unparalleled innovation in networks, devices and apps; and renewed U.S. leadership around the world." [Editor's note: See feature on Genachowski in Summer 2012 *CCT*.]

President Barack Obama '83 concurred and added, "Thanks to his hard work and his leadership, the FCC has made extraordinary progress on both fronts."

Julius has moved to The Aspen Institute, a non-partisan organization based in Washington, D.C., as a senior fellow.

Larry Slaughter joined Lazard as managing director and vice chairman, investment banking, effective

June 3. Larry was at JP Morgan for 26 years, where he was co-head of North American Investment Banking, having previously been head of European Investment Banking Corporates in London. During his tenure at JP Morgan, Larry led many transformative M&A and capital markets transactions in aerospace, automotive, capital goods, chemicals, healthcare and other industries. He spent two decades in London, where he was co-head of European M&A and head of the European financial sponsors business. From 2008 until his return to New York in 2011, he was head of European Investment Banking Corporates.

Todd Hughes has produced a documentary, *Dear Mom, Love Cher*, which premiered on Lifetime in May and honored the remarkable life story and perseverance of Cher's mother, Georgia Holt. **Cary Berger** wrote the original score for the film (Todd and Cary have been collaborating for 30 years, including on the 1986 cult short *The Horror and Mystery of the Succubus*, which starred Karl-Ludwig Selig); John Tanzer '87 was the director of photography. Todd produced the documentary *Hit So Hard* about Courtney Love's band, Hole, (also with John) and executive produced *Room 237* about obsession with Stanley Kubrick's *The Shining*.

Kudos to **John Phelan** for representing our class at the Glee Club alumni concert that took place during Alumni Reunion Weekend. I sang in a similar concert at our 25th reunion, and it brought back some great memories (aside from getting to see so many Glee Club "legends").

Speaking of Glee Clubbers, I met in New York this spring with several when they came for family campus visits. **David Zapolsky** and his son, Ian '15, joined me and my son, Isaac '14, for an adventure with the Mets at Citi Field. (The company was certainly superior to the play by the home team on the field.) David is settling into his role as general counsel of Amazon. Ian and Isaac, unbeknownst to each other, were in the same computer science class last semester. Small world indeed.

Tom Scotti, his wife, Karen, and their daughter, Anne '17, joined us for brunch this spring near campus as well. Tom works for Consensus Advisors in Boston, where he has been a managing director since July 2011.

Finally, as I invited you all to share highlights from your half-century birthday celebration year, let me share a few of my own. I have chosen to spread out the celebration (punctuated by sporting events) throughout the year. And it has truly been a year of highlights. In April I checked off a lifetime "bucket list" item when I attended the first round of The Masters with my youngest son, Josh. Everything I had read about how TV doesn't do it justice is an understatement. Absolutely incredible. For all you golfers out there, do whatever you have to do to make an early April trip there.

In June, my wife, Allison '86 Barnard, and I were honored to receive our synagogue's Holy Community Award. In July, I attended the Major League Baseball All-Star Game at Citi Field. In August, our entire family made our first trip together to Israel (I have a large number of family members there, but had never been). Truly unforgettable. And finally, this September, Allison and I look forward to celebrating our 25th anniversary. A truly special year. We are very blessed.

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Thanks to all those who responded to my email appeal for news! Many emails bounced back, so if you hear from me in late June, please write me at everett6@gmail.com and I'll make sure that Columbia updates its database. [Editor's note: You can also contact Columbia directly with any contact information updates: college.columbia.edu/cct/update_contact_info.]

Todd Hughes '85 has produced a documentary, *Dear Mom, Love Cher*, which premiered on Lifetime in May and honored the life story and perseverance of Cher's mother, Georgia Holt.

John Yeh wrote that the robotics team Landroids, which he has coached for the past six years, won the 2012 world championship and was invited to the 2013 White House Science Fair. John's son, Karlin Yeh (17), is on the team. John started the team for Karlin and his friends when they were in kindergarten. It began as a weekly LEGO play group and grew from there. "Once they had a taste of winning, there was no stopping them!" says John. You can see a photo of the winning team and a very impressive list of their awards at landroids.org/awards.

Joshua Wirtschafter wrote from Berkeley, Calif., to *kvell* about his son, Eli, who recently graduated from UC Berkeley with a double major in theatre and American studies. As the Departmental Citation Winner (i.e., No. 1 student) in both departments, he spoke at both of his departmental graduations. His awards were based largely on his success in researching an American studies honor's thesis on the Astor Place Riot in NYC in 1849, and writing and directing a play produced by the theatre department on the same subject. So Professor Kenneth Jackson's course on the history of the City of New York has reverberated down a generation!

Josh was recently named by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as the Superfund Legal Enforcer of the Year in recognition of his negotiation of a multi-party agreement for the cleanup of a defunct copper mine in Nevada near the Duck Valley Indian Reservation of the Shoshone Paiute Tribes. This is the second time in Josh's 15-year legal career at the EPA that he has won this award.

Josh's daughter, Marnina, is studying communications and theatre at UCLA. Josh's wife, Diane Schon Wirtschafter '86 Barnard, teaches at the Black Pine Circle School in Berkeley, where their youngest child, Rafael, is thriving in middle school. Josh and Diane are musicians as well, most recently playing violin and singing (respectively) in a klezmer Purim Spiel.

Dave Nachmanoff writes, "I'll be playing at the Royal Albert Hall in October, when I'll be accompanying my longtime favorite singer-songwriter, Al Stewart ('The Year of the Cat'). We've toured as an acoustic duo for more than 10 years. The first place I saw him play was the Royal Albert Hall in London while I was on a junior year abroad at Oxford (part of a program that Columbia had just introduced) in 1985. I appeared there with him in 2006, and never guessed I'd get to come back for another show there. For a lot more information about my music and what I've been doing since my Columbia days, visit davenach.com.

Joel Berg says, "I have two bits of exciting professional news. I am appearing, along with Academy Award-winner Jeff Bridges and others, in a documentary on hunger in America called *A Place at the Table*. It is still in some theaters but is also available online and on DVD (magpictures.com/aplaceatthetable/). Also, the organization I head, the New York City Coalition Against Hunger, has launched a national initiative to revolutionize the way people volunteer to fight hunger, to make such efforts far more effective (hungervolunteer.org)."

Jon Rutchik, his wife, Beth, and son, Rex (6), returned home to California from a trip to Iceland and Greenland in June. He writes, "South Greenland was unique and fantastic! We ventured around Eskimo villages where icebergs hover in coves out one's window, and we looked for rare earth minerals, seals, and minke, fin and humpback whales as well as Norse ruins. We handled narwhal tusks and ate narwhal (no actual sighting, though). I sketched, painted and visited with local artists. The weather was great — in the mid-60s! Visiting the polar ice cap was amazing considering it reaches north to the pole. I am already planning our next adventure to the east or northwest of that country.

"Iceland was more European but the nature was staggering and my favorite part was that very few tourists were anywhere except at the gas station stops around the ring road. Waterfalls and sharp jagged mountain tops everywhere you turn. We did get to fly-fish for arctic char and drive a bit off-road. Hotels were small but charming and of course the cod and char were delicious. My son now speaks fluent Icelandic (kidding), but he can pronounce the names of many towns in the north and east fjords: Akureyri, Húsavík, Seyðisfjörður, Borgarfjörður and Djúpivogur! This country also has lots to offer and is highly recommended.

"As for work, I continue to enjoy treating and evaluating patients with neurological problems and occupational issues and/or environmental exposures to solvents or metals; I also teach and do medical legal work. In 2012, I was promoted to associate clinical professor at UCSF. We very much enjoy Marin County and the nature here. My tennis game is solid as well, and I have been successful in singles in my USTA leagues. Connect with me at jsrutch@neoma.com or on Facebook."

Congrats to **Derrick Harris,** in Atlanta, for having his company, StandBy Talent, nominated to the 2013 Inc. 5000, a list of the fastest growing companies in America, sponsored by *Inc.* magazine. The company made the list based on its 1,100 percent growth during the last three years. StandBy Talent places IT contractors in the Atlanta market but has clients across the country. Derrick's prior entrepreneurial venture, from 2004–07, was an HR consulting and staffing firm called the Human Resources Department.

He writes, "We are always seeking new clients and would love to help fellow alums with their company's talent acquisition needs. We also fill accounting, financial, HR and office support roles on a contract, contract-to-perm or direct hire basis." You can find out more at standbytalent.com.

A film and video editor for more than 22 years, **Eric Pomert** (in Berkeley) is making good on a wish he has long kept at bay. Several of his friends encouraged him to jump into the breach, so this fall he will teach a class at the adult school in Piedmont, Calif.; it's called "Editor's Eye: Cinema Appreciation from the Cutting Room Perspective." To find out more, visit ericpomert.com.

Joe Rio was the first invited speaker in June at the new Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, where he addressed the impact of federal legislation on the LGBT community and on the banking and financial sectors' diversity policies. Joe adds, "Too big to fail and now too big not to care!"

A few months ago, **Ben Field** started a job as executive officer of the South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council, which represents 89 unions and about 100,000 working families in Silicon Valley. He writes, "We are doing our best to reverse the trend of income inequality in one of richest parts of the country. Last fall we led the campaign to raise the minimum wage to $10 in San Jose, and there's more in store."

Adam Pergament, in Laguna Beach, Calif., is a real estate broker with Sotheby's International Realty. Adam previously had founded a design and marketing studio, Swiftpictures, and photographed many prestigious homes in Los Angeles, which led him to join Sotheby's. He moved to L.A. 26 years ago when he attended Loyola Law.

Theo Le Guin writes, "Having left my policy and market research career of 25 years last year, I am returning to my original interests (and CC major) in the visual arts and am opening a gallery, Upfor. It will open in early September in Portland, Ore., and will feature contemporary art with an emphasis on digital and new media."

Congrats to **Mitch Earleywine** for being named director of clinical training at the Clinical Psychology Program at SUNY Albany. He also was elected to the executive board of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws. He writes, "I had a blast recently with **Phil Birnbaum** and his family at a museum in Albany when they were visiting from Chicago."

Congrats to **Ted Kenney** and his wife, Yim, on the birth of their twins, Karen and Lena, last October 30, joining their brother, George (3).

Dave Romine lives in Narberth, Pa. (close to Philadelphia), with his wife, Kathryn, and their sons, John (16) and Alex (10). Dave says, "I have been to every Columbia football game played at Penn for the last 12 years (happens every other year) and have yet to see the Lions win."

George Warren and his wife, Sarah Thomas, took their son Benjamin (16) to visit Columbia in June. They have three other children keeping them busy in Austin: George (21), Andrew (19) and Hilleary (12).

Unfortunately, I have to report that **Kevin Hall** passed away in late 2012. Thank you, **Tom Marrinson,** for bringing this to my attention. Tom is a partner at Reed Smith in Chicago and briefly worked with Kevin at that firm.

From the legacy.com memorial for Kevin, I learned he passed away suddenly on November 2, 2012, while in L.A. on business. He is survived by his spouse, Mark Khoury; parents, Anthony and Gillian Hall; and siblings, Melissa and Ian.

Kevin was born in Nairobi, Kenya, and earned a J.D. at Cornell in 1991. He had a successful law career and became partner at Linklaters in New York, then in 2006 joined Reed Smith as partner and moved to San Francisco. In 2009, Kevin joined LiveDeal, initially as general counsel and then was president and CEO before he left in early 2012. That year he completed an executive M.B.A. at the Stanford Graduate School of Business. He was a member of the board of directors of the San Francisco YMCA and the AIDS Legal Referral Panel.

There was a memorial in San Francisco for Kevin, which Tom attended. Tom writes, "I was honored to offer a memory from his days at Columbia to the many loving friends and family members who attended Kevin's remembrance service in San Francisco. His larger-than-life personality will be missed."

On July 7, there was an article on the front page of *The New York Times* Sunday Arts & Leisure section on **David Rakoff.** It was a heartbreaking piece because David passed away from cancer about a year ago in August [Editor's note: See Fall 2012 Obituaries]. David no doubt would have appreciated the rich irony that his final work, *Love, Dishonor, Marry, Die, Cherish, Perish: A Novel,* was published posthumously and is garnering positive press. The article detailed how David wrote the novel in rhyming iambic pentameter in between surgeries and chemotherapy, and how friends such as NPR's Ira Glass helped him get it published and record the audiobook in his final days.

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Work life is the focus of this column, with lots of promotions, job changes and new career directions!

Rima Jolivet has taken a position as director of professional and business development at the Centering Healthcare Institute, a nonprofit that developed and promotes an innovative, evidence-based model of group care for maternal and child health. With the new position, Rima said, also came a move to Boston.

In the last issue, we reported on **Irene Tucker**'s new book, *The Moment of Racial Sight: A History.* Just weeks later came her promotion to full professor at UC Irvine.

In more news from the academic world, **Steve Bloom** was promoted to professor of physics and astronomy at Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia. His area of research is high-energy astrophysics.

When **Eric Rubenstein** heard about Steve's news, he wrote, "Steve and I were astro majors back in the day. We've gone different routes. In 2002, I left .edu and went to .com and .mil — that is, I took a position as an R&D scientist and also joined the Navy Reserve. I'm now president of a small software company, ImageInsightInc.com, that puts out 'GammaPix' software, which uses smartphones and video cameras to detect gamma ray radiation.

"On the military side," Eric added, "I was promoted to lieutenant commander in the Navy Reserve about 1½ years ago. As things have turned out, I use astronomy in both my civilian and military capacities." Eric and his wife, Debbie Farbman Rubenstein, have been married for nearly 25 years and have three sons.

Madeleine Villanueva has rejoined the academic world, beginning a master's program in public administration at Baruch College via the National Urban Fellows program. She said (with a chuckle), "One week in, and it's very evident I should have paid more attention in statistics while at Columbia!"

We welcome to the column **Ara Kouchakdjian,** who sent in his first update. He said, "Professionally, I'm the v.p. of product management at LifeImage, the nation's largest and most utilized network for sharing medical imaging information. I enjoy early-stage companies and am passionate about innovative technologies, especially in healthcare.

"Personally, I'm happily married with a daughter and three sons between the ages of 3 and 8. Their ages currently limit the amount of volunteer activities I can do, but I still try to be as involved as I can."

Ara, who is from Washington, D.C., has lived in Boston since 1999. He is in touch with several Columbians, including Martha Colon-Ho '88E; Steve Bezirganian '86, '87 GSAS; and several members of the Columbia Armenian Club including Ed Tekeian '90 GS; Tom Momjian '89; Mark Momjian '83, '86L; Souren Ouzounian '89; and Claire Kedeshian '86 Barnard. He added, "I'm connected with many alums on LinkedIn, which makes it easier to keep up to date."

Eli Kavon, a rabbi at Beth Ami Congregation in Boca Raton, Fla., reported that he is at work "at-

Joe Rio '86 was the first invited speaker in June at the new Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

tempting to break new ground in the formulation of a prayer service and liturgy for Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah)."

He said, "My hope is to implement this liturgy at my synagogue for next year's commemoration. I try to tap into Jewish sources that provide a meaningful and relevant post-Shoah theology that redefines our approach to God in the wake of the seminal events in Jewish history in the last century. My hope is that my liturgy will take root in other synagogues across the country and throughout the world."

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I'll dispense with rhetorical questions like "Has it really been a quarter-century since we graduated?" because I've already achieved Zen-like acceptance of the passage of time, and skip right to the 25th reunion, which was an event worthy of the august anniversary.

Reunion co-chairs **Stefanie Katz-Rothman, Jon Sobel** and **Doug Wolf** reported: "Our 25th reunion was a huge success. Despite brutal heat, more than 195 classmates and guests made the trip to campus from as close as the Upper West Side and as far away as Beijing and Zurich — thanks to **Frank**

Marinaro and **Yuri Lustenberger-Kim** for making the long trip! For some it was their first time back to campus since graduation. The highlight of the weekend for many was our class dinner at Casa Italiana. Class v.p. **Corney Gallo** gave remarks and honored the memory of classmates who passed away. Dean James J. Valentini presented University Trustee **Jonathan Lavine** one of the three inaugural Dean's Leadership Awards for his extraordinary class leadership during a reunion. Jim McMenamin, the man responsible for admitting all of us to the College, emceed an animated and highly competitive interactive trivia contest (one of the questions was "What was our admission rate?"; answer, 28.63 percent). The winning team is now proudly sporting Columbia 'C' hats.

"Thanks so much to the amazing Reunion Committee for its hard work and dedication to raising money, creating the program and encouraging friends to attend. Shout-outs go to **Stephanie Schwartz** for suggesting we do a trivia game, to **Carl Schaerf** for helping with the trivia questions and providing other wit and wisdom, and to **Regina Noch** for creating a 'Top Songs of 1988' playlist. CC '88 set records for donations and participation for our Class Gift. More than 200 classmates donated, exceeding our goal of 185. We raised $2.7 million in unrestricted gifts and a total of close to $19.88 million in gifts to the College and the University."

According to **Sharon Levin**, "The reunion combined two of my favorite things about going to Columbia: the great people and the fun neighborhood places to eat and drink. (Although there were fewer jelly bracelets and parachute pants than I remember from the '80s.) Saturday started with an early eggplant pizza lunch at V&T with friends, including **Ellen Pluta** and **Abe Glazer,** who both look amazing and are doing great things in NYC and Rochester. After a stop by the 'lunch under the tent,' a group of us spent the afternoon at the former West End (now Havana Central) drinking and eating chips — just like we did in 1988 (except for the chips).

"In addition to Ellen and Abe, **Cornelia Gallo** and her husband, Peter, were there (Corney counseling me about life just like she did in college), as were **Jake Goldberg** (who was excited about his oldest getting ready to graduate from high school), **Sean Wright** and his wife (who are having a lovely time in Houston), Elisa Pollack '88 Barnard (living on the Upper West Side with her family) and others. As happened so many times in college after an afternoon at The West End, I needed to take a short nap before going to my next social engagement, our class dinner, which was packed with people I hadn't seen in years. I sat with **Carlos Cruz** and **Mónica Byrne-Jiménez** (and others) and we got clobbered at trivia but had a great time. After spending a few hours with folks on The Steps, the evening ended as so many did at Columbia: in the wee hours of the morning with good friends getting a Broadway shake at Tom's."

In non-reunion news, **Eve Newhart** dropped a note saying, "I am a physician and I work at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles in hospitalist and palliative care medicine. I have three kids (8, 10 and 12)."

Laura Prendergast wrote, "My biotech startup, VectorGen, is seeking a senior researcher in HIV biology and/or gene therapy to form a mentoring relationship for help with our next grant application. We are targeting a September deadline for STTR and R03 applications to the National Institutes of Health, NIAIDS division. I also am seeking assistance with a grant application to secure funding for a pilot program, 'StreetCard,' to use information technology to streamline the process of getting benefits to homeless persons.

"I have completed a full-length screenplay, which was scheduled to be read at the July and August meetings of an Albany (N.Y.) area screenwriters' meet-up group.

"Also, I am advocating for a homeless person whom I met while a student at Columbia, and who is now incarcerated in Auburn Correctional Facility, doing 25-to-life for a murder I am certain he did not do. I have submitted requested documents to the Innocence Project for consideration of his case under the auspices of the Bloodsworth grant, which was awarded to the NYPD in conjunction with the Innocence Project, to locate and categorize missing evidence."

Congratulations to **Thomas Love** on a recent professional honor. According to a press release, he "has been named a fellow of the American Statistical Association, the nation's preeminent professional statistical society." ASA president Marie Davidian said, "His accomplishments have contributed greatly to the advancement of statistical science and have rightfully earned him the respect and admiration of his ASA peers."

Tom is professor of medicine, epidemiology and biostatistics at Case Western Reserve and the Center for Health Care Research & Policy at Case Western Reserve University MetroHealth Medical Center as well as data director for Better Health Greater Cleveland. He holds two master's, in mathematics education, from Teachers College and a Ph.D. in statistics from Penn. He is a 20-year resident of Shaker Heights, Ohio, with his wife, **Sheryl Hoke Love,** an intellectual property attorney at Jones Day, and their sons, Kevin (13) and Brian (11).

My former *Spectator* co-sports editor, **Shep Long,** wrote, "I did not attend the reunion but I did get to enjoy a mini-reunion in March at the NCAA basketball tournament in Austin. I met up with **Brad Mitchell, Steve Silverstein, Scott Marantz** and **Geoff Hoffman,** plus Tom Leder '89, for a great weekend of eating barbecue, watching basketball, drinking beer and generally acting like college students. This is becoming a biannual tradition for us, with prior reunions in Houston (2009) and Scottsdale (2011).

"I live in Massachusetts," Shep continued, "and am broker and co-owner of a residential real estate brokerage by day and aspiring baseball umpire (mostly high school level) in my spare time. I've also taken up running to combat middle age and completed my second half-marathon during Memorial Day weekend. I've vowed to run 50 races before I turn 50 in 2016 and am even blogging about it at 50races.blogspot.com."

Finally, one of the most important updates I'm likely to submit about myself: My wife, Hedieh, gave birth to our second child, and first daughter, on July 8 in Washington, D.C. Esther Bessie Fusfield arrived a crisp 13 minutes after hospital check-in, weighing 8 lbs., 7 oz. Like her 2-year-old brother, Manny, she has a chance to graduate from college before her dad attends his 50th reunion.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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Organizers are already planning our 25th Alumni Reunion Weekend, which is coming at us next spring, Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. If anyone would like to get involved in planning or fundraising, please contact one of the Alumni Office staffers listed at the top of the column. The more the merrier, so mark your calendars now!

Elizabeth Gabre-Sellassie, ever busy with her Midtown bridal salon, Designer Loft, which she opened in 2002, wrote in earlier this year. Her salon features top and emerging bridal couture designers, including a number of designers whose work is shown at the salon exclusively. Elizabeth has run into several alumni at work; she created a gown for Tamara Straus '91's sister, Rachel, and attended the wedding in Salamanca, Spain, this summer. Accompanying her to the wedding was Becca Moss '90. **Paige Stevenson,** when she is not working as an artist or belly dancing, occasionally helps Elizabeth with bookkeeping. **Rebecca Fine** was a recent bridal client. Elizabeth also mentioned that she saw **Angelo Ragaza,** Jasmine Rodriguez '89 Barnard and **Desi Del Valle** in June and celebrated the Supreme Court's historic decision on marriage rights.

Patrick Nolan, who has been a rising star in my industry for many years, most lately as a v.p., the editor-in-chief and an associate publisher of Penguin Books, married Clément Louis Georges Marie Gaujal in June at the Wythe Hotel in Brooklyn. After graduating, Patrick earned a master's in peace studies from the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland. His husband is an independent translator in Paris and resides there and in Manhattan; he graduated from EMLYON Business School in Écully, France.

I heard from **Anthony Fusco,** who lives in Hamilton, Mass., with his wife and children (18, 16 and 13): "These are busy and exciting times for us. I am a partner in the law firm of Glovsky & Glovsky in nearby Beverly, Mass. My practice consists of estate planning and elder law."

Though Anthony has not been in touch with the Columbia gang in a long time, he still plays basketball and is looking forward to our big reunion in 2014. I'll spell it out: 25 years!

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It was my and **Sharon Rogers'** great honor in June to have surprised **Laura Shaw-Frank** at her school's end-of-year awards ceremony. We took time from work to head up to Beth Tfiloh Dahan Community School in Baltimore to applaud her when she won Teacher of the Year. The awardees (one from each division of the K–12 school) are selected by the head of school and the divisional principals. Even though Laura's husband, Aaron, is the high

school principal (when she was hired in 2004 to teach Jewish history, he was lower school principal, so no nepotism there), he recused himself from the selection process. Laura has been teaching there for nine years, and from what I know and have observed of her in this role, this award was long overdue! The most fun part was magically appearing in the room (along with her mother and children) when her name was announced. Sharon and I felt like we were on the "Jerry Springer/Ricki Lake/whoever-does-this-type-of-talk-show-now Show."

But wait, there's more to celebrate. Laura successfully defended her dissertation prospectus on "Jewish Marriage in America, 1820–1920" in April, which makes her officially A.B.D. (All But Dissertation) for her Ph.D. in Jewish history from the University of Maryland. Mazel tov!

It's always great to hear from **Marian Wright.** She reports, "My family and I — husband Greg Boester and boys Cole (11), Wyatt (9) and Rhodes (7) — live in Rye, N.Y., where we have been for about 10 years. The boys, especially Cole, are huge into soccer (go Chelsea!) but also enjoy reading and just being outside. Two years ago, we finally found a great cottage on Lake Caspian in Greensboro, Vt. We have spent time as a family in Greensboro each summer since Cole was small and, in fact, my mother's extended family has been summering there since the 1940s. The cottage is right down the lane from my grandfather's house, where I spent summers growing up, and nearby are lots of other cousins and old friends. In 2012, after I led an extensive rebuild of the house, we spent a glorious, very relaxed and very outdoorsy summer there. Our plan is to spend all summer every summer there going forward. To be able to give our kids the types of summers I had as a kid — simple, and focused on nature, sport and family — is a fantastic feeling.

"Other than that, I spend my time running the household and raising the kids. This type of life is most certainly not what I imagined I would be doing when I was a CC student, but I find that my education has played a big role in our parenting. We have managed to raise boys who love to learn and who question the world around them and enjoy and appreciate what the world has to offer (at least most of the time!). Our youngest tells us he is going to go to Columbia, and I have taken the boys to campus quite a few times. They are very impressed by it, and it's fun to see it through their eyes. In addition, now that Rhodes is in school full-time and once my current (Rye) renovation project is done this fall, I am going to focus on writing, something I haven't been able to do for years. Very excited for that.



Several alumni and their families caught up at the NCAA Super Regional baseball game between Columbia and Arizona State, held at Cal State Fullerton in June (the Lions lost). At far left, Don Chiesa '88 stands with his son, Jonas; Jon Dwyer '89 and his wife, Yvette, are in the middle with their clan; and Matt Sodl '88 is at far right.

"I am in touch with **Gabe Kra,** who lives in the Bay Area with his wife, Julie, and four kids; **Ted Acworth '90E,** '92E, who recently had his second son and lives with the boys and his wife, Maddie, in Boston; **Jenny Harvey** (née Thompson), who lives on the Upper West Side with her husband, Steve, and their three kids; and Susie Marples '88, who lives downtown with hubby Nelson Young and their two boys."

I'm going to close out this column with an epic (in a good way) tale from **Rachelle Selmon.** She begins, "I'm finally facing the music and writing in for the first time. I've been in touch with quite a few people through Facebook, which has been a wonderful way to stay in touch and know what people are up to. If I wrote about all of the people I've been in contact with, I could fill the entire magazine, so I will stick to those I've seen in my travels over the last year.

"In March 2012, I lost my human resources position in New York, so decided it was time to sell the apartment and move to Los Angeles. However, while waiting to sell my apartment, I got an offer I couldn't refuse to go to London and discuss opening an office for a U.K. recruitment firm. That fell through while I was there, but I loved London and so stayed a few months and traveled — made it to Spain, Israel, Germany, Morocco and South Africa. While in London, I had dinner with **Chris Alexander,** who was visiting from Los Angeles with his partner, Michael. Chris is doing well (and looks great) as an s.v.p. of corporate communications and publicity at 20th Century Fox Television.

"Once I got back to New York, I spent a few weeks working and seeing friends. Made sure to spend time with Susie Wu Dare '90 Barnard, who lives in Manhattan with her husband, Hunter, and daughter, Savannah. Bina Kalola '91 Barnard also is in the city, looking fabulous and doing well as a managing director at Bank of America Merrill Lynch. **Anette Kreipke** lives in New Jersey, has a place I envy in Asbury Park with her husband, Djidja, and is taking some time to stay home with her daughter, Mia. She was recently on the TV show *Chopped* for a Mother's Day special, so check that out online to see what she's up to and how culinary school honed her skills! Also saw **Eric Prager,** my favorite sushi buddy, who is married to art history professor Karen and is a partner at the law firm K&L Gates.

"Then I started my three-week road trip to Los Angeles. First stop was **Eric Haxthausen,** who's excelling in Washington, D.C. He also took some time off (with a cool trip to Costa Rica) but now works for the U.S. Agency for International Development in its climate change office — something about connecting climate work to The World Bank and other investments. I may not know what that means but he seems to love it.

"Next stop was Charlotte, N.C., for a visit with Juhayna Kassem Davis '90 Barnard; her husband, Ashley; and their sons, Laith and Kais. Juhayna has a private medical practice and moved to North Carolina a few years ago from NYC. From there I headed to Tennessee, where I made friends listening to country bands. I was falling in love with the United States again.

"Next I headed to Arkansas, where I spent two nights hanging and having fun with **Sally Graham** and **Warigia Bowman.** Sally moved back to be closer to family after a long run at CNN. She's now a company spokeswoman with Entergy Arkansas and is active in community theatre, most recently in a production of the comedy *Dearly Beloved.* She'd love to reconnect with folks and can be reached at ssg39@columbia.edu. Warigia helps to make the world a better place; she is a professor at the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Pub-

lic Service and recently monitored the Kenyan elections. Warigia and her husband, Hamadi, have three children — Mariamu, Ali and David — and own a successful taxi and safari business. She welcomes anyone who wants to go on safari to contact her at African Wildcats Adventure Safaris (wildcatssafaris.com).

"After exploring Texas (and making more friends in Austin thanks to Warigia), I headed to Tucson, where I spent a few days with **Lisa Robinson;** her husband, Ken; and daughter, Harper. Lisa is a well-regarded photographer who already has published a book of photography, whose work is in museum collections and who has shown in NYC. If you haven't seen her work, it's amazing, and can be found at lisamrobinson.com.

"As I headed into southern California, I met up with the stunning **Jennifer Lee** (go Carman 11!), who is a sociology professor at UC Irvine and an avid surfer, having learned from her beau, Mike. I had actually seen her and Mike the year before in NYC while she was on sabbatical as a Russell Sage Foundation Visiting Scholar.

"Since arriving in L.A. in April, I have had drinks with **Rich Yaker** (go Carman 11!) and **Balan Venugopal.** Rich married Jennifer Gaynor in May in Marina del Rey, Calif. Rich is an engineering manager at Herbalife and also helps others through his company, Conscious Life Coaching, and as CTO at One-Giving. Balan hasn't aged a bit and is a v.p. at Morgan Stanley. As of this writing, he owes me a tennis match! Saw Vicki Curry '90 Barnard, who looks fantastic and was senior press secretary for L.A. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa; now she's serving as associate director of communications for Mayor Eric Garcetti '92, '93 SIPA (she was very involved with his campaign). Lastly, I met Joel Barron '91, who surfs with Rich and is a doctor at Cedars-Sinai.

"Have seen just one more Columbia person — took a quick trip up to San Francisco to take a prep course to get my California HR certification (I passed!) and met up with **Jeannine DeLoche** and her daughter, Margot, for sushi. Jeannine looks great, is doing well and is an s.v.p. in marketing at Wells Fargo. She recently visited NYC (her home since Columbia, until she moved to San Francisco a few years ago) and caught up with **Lisa Quirindongo,** who lives in Fairfield, Conn., with her husband and two kids, and **Steve Naidich** and his wife, Rachel, who also have two little ones.

"Am loving L.A. and so glad I moved here. It's hard not to be happy when the sun always shines. As of this writing still job hunting but don't mind unemployment so much when I can be hiking in the hills and bike riding along the beach.

"Looking forward to seeing more Columbians here (shout-out to **Chris Heck, Liane Weintraub** (née Manshel), **Hyun Bae '90E, Jeff Rake** and **Paulette Light**) and wherever I travel. And definitely let me know if you're visiting L.A."

If this column is not enough for you, you can celebrate that our class finally has its own Facebook group (Columbia College Class of '90). This is a great place to catch up with classmates professionally and socially and to plan for our 25th reunion (Thursday, May 28–Sunday, May 31, 2015). To join, please message administrator **Emily Glickman** on FB and she will add you to the group. See you at reunion!

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Greetings, all!

Stephen Fealy shares this update: "I'm an orthopedic surgeon specializing in sports medicine and shoulder surgery at the Hospital for Special Surgery in NYC. I'm married to Kristen Gesswein Fealy '90 Barnard. I am happy to report that this year I was chosen to become the orthopedic consultant for the Major League Baseball Players Association. This is a particularly fun honor, as my three small children continually ask when we will get autographs and tickets for games. Also, as a former Columbia baseball player who never made it 'big time,' I have been having a ton of fun being around the athletes and working with the teams.

"We live in NYC, where I frequently see **Andrew Fink** on the squash courts and **Stefan Reyniak** in the neighborhood. I also was honored last year to help **John Poneros** after he had a sports injury.

"Kristen and I recently took our children to the Columbia campus and were pleasantly surprised when my daughter, Campbell, declared that we were no longer in NYC and clearly had gone to Connecticut! It is a wonderful campus in a great city. Best to all!"

Jack Hidary announced his candidacy for New York City mayor. According to a press release, he has more than 15 years of active participation in public service. In 2005, Jack and David Yassky, then a City Council member, advocated for energy-efficient taxicabs; the two worked with drivers to save thousands of dollars per cab each year in fuel costs, and today the majority of the 13,500 taxis in New York are energy-efficient vehicles.

Jack has been involved in numerous civic groups, including as a partner at Partnership for New York City, as a trustee of the Citizens Budget Commission and as a member of the Association for a Better New York. He is on several advisory boards, including those of National Renewable Energy Laboratory and Google X. He also is on the board of XPRIZE Foundation. Jack is a founding member of the Clinton Global Initiative and was named by the World Economic Forum as a "Global Leader of Tomorrow." The campaign made its official announcement through a video posted on its website, jackformayor.com. Best of luck, Jack!

I would love to hear from more of you. Send in those updates to me by email or submit them using *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Until next time … cheers!

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Although the mailbag was pretty light this time, that won't stop me from reporting a few encounters with classmates.

First, congratulations to **Michael Fisher** and his wife, Lynn, on the bat mitzvah of their daughter, Zoe Rachel, this past May in Forest Hills, N.Y. I had the pleasure of attending the ceremony and luncheon and can truly say that Zoe (and her parents) did a tremendous job.

Second, a business trip to Chicago gave me my first chance in a while to see **Donna Myers** and **Aaron Lebovitz** at their home in Oak Park, Ill. It was great to catch up over the balance of an afternoon and see their two eldest children, Madi and Bram (I missed out on a chance to see their youngest, Ava).

Third, and perhaps most unexpectedly, I saw **Rob Carey** and his girlfriend, Janet, in — of all places — Las Vegas, at the World Series of Poker. While playing in a tournament in June, I provided live updates on social media. Imagine my surprise when between updates I got a message from Rob, explaining that he was in the area and asking whether it would be OK if he and Janet came to watch. The two had been driving across the United States and were in nearby Laughlin, Nev., at the time that he saw my update. The three of us caught up over the all-too-short dinner break and, thanks to Rob, I had my first experience of having a fan club rooting for me at an event.

Rob wasn't the only alumnus of our vintage at the World Series of Poker this year. I also caught up with David Hantman '91 and Lucy Ruwitch Langer '93, each of whom was in town at the same time I was.

That's all for now. I hope to hear from as many of you as possible for the next issue — it's always more fun that way. Please send notes to me using the email at the top of the column or through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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What a great reunion we had! It was fantastic to see so many classmates attend our 20th — our strongest showing yet! Many thanks to our Reunion Committee for putting together a terrific weekend and to those who sent me follow-up notes to include in this column.

On Thursday night, our class organized a screening of **Neil Turitz**'s new movie, *That Thing With The Cat*. About 15 classmates attended including **Joe Laszlo, Addison Golladay, Alan Freeman, Rachel Mintz, Adrian Bordoni** and **Stephen Morfesis.** According to Neil, folks seemed to like it, and his "general rule of thumb is, as long as they don't hate it, I consider it a success. Anything north of that is just a bonus, and I'm pretty sure no one hated it. Therefore, victory!" According to one anonymous source who is not related to Neil, he remains the greatest filmmaker of this or any time!

Friday night had not one but

two parties. There was the class cocktail party that about 75 classmates attended and that I heard was a great event. A group of us, however, arrived in town too late to make it, so we started the night at V&T. The group included **Ali Towle, Sandra Johnson, Robyn Tuerk, Julie Davidson Hassan, George Hassan, Patti Lee** and **Drew Stevens '93E** to start. It had been a few years since I'd seen Drew, who lives in San Francisco with his wife, works in technology and launched a men's shirt company called Drew Shanklin (Shirts) (drewshanklin.com). We were then joined by a group that had been at the cocktail party, including **Thad Sheely, Shiva Sooudi Farouki, Sandra Fahy, Jennifer Larrabee** and **Lerya Goitia Smith.**

After a delicious dinner served by none other than Aldo himself, a bunch of us headed down to the class "after-party" at O'Flaherty's Ale House and Restaurant on Restaurant Row. It was fun to see so many familiar faces and I wish I had a chance to speak with everyone in the room! Fortunately, I was able to catch up with or hear about **Isabel Barbosa Kallman,** who lives in NYC with her husband and son and runs a parenting blog called Alpha Mom (alphamom.com); **Ben Besley,** who lives in Southern California with his wife and is doing well in real estate; **Chad Moore,** who lives in Los Angeles and is a video game writer/designer; **Matt Streem,** who lives in Cleveland and is an entrepreneur; **Lorenzo Wyatt,** who lives in Connecticut and is a general contractor; **Joel Cramer,** who lives in Chicago with his wife and kids and runs the Chicago office of Conning; **John Trbovich '93E,** who lives in Winter Park, Fla., with his wife and three kids and works in private equity; **Matt DeFilippis,** who lives on Long Island with his family and is in charge of music licensing for the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers; **Rebecca Polyakovsky,** who lives in Seattle with her family; **Seth Pinsky,** who works for the City of New York and recently became a father; and **Chris Collins '93E,** who lives in San Francisco and is a real estate developer.

Then, there were those whom I saw across the crowded room but did not have a chance to talk to: **Aileen Torres Martin, Micky Iriarte, Addison Golladay, Yumi Koh, Karla Lema, Rachel Mintz** and **Mar Wolf,** among others. On our way home, **Patti Lee** and I along with our husbands walked past Tom's Restaurant, and standing there in the window was Pete (of the Broadway Shake fame)! We had déjà vu and were thrilled that he recognized us!

Saturday had a full schedule of events, including the alumni barbecue and the class dinner. At the barbecue, I caught up with **Ezra Kenigsberg,** who recently relocated to Austin, Texas, where he works for Dell, as well as **Rita Pietropinto-Kitt,** who recently had a third baby and was joined by her kids and husband, Tom Kitt '96. I also saw or briefly caught up with **Axuve Espinosa '93E,** a Carman 11 floormate, whom I learned recently got married in a ceremony officiated by **Frank Ballabio '93E** and attended by **Neil Turitz** (all Carman 11!); **Nina Lieberman** (née Abraham) and her family; **Rohit Aggarwala, Risa Arbolino, Adam Fels** and **Sean Doherty.**

Kay Bailey '94 recently started a job as a grant writer for the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA.org).

Our class dinner on Saturday was held on the 15th floor of SIPA. We did not have a professor speak and instead had a brief visit from Dean James J. Valentini. During the cocktail party and dinner I caught up with **Andrew Ceresney,** who recently was named co-director of the U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission's Division of Enforcement (congratulations, Andrew!); **Joel Lusman,** who runs a New York-based hedge fund and lives in Greenwich, Conn., with his wife and son; **Amy Ahn,** who lives in NYC with her family; **Alyson Berliner** (the first person I met at Columbia in 1989!), an ophthalmologist who works at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals; **Andrew Borrok,** who leads our class fundraising efforts, lives in NYC and works in real estate; **Richard Carrick,** a musician who taught at Columbia this year; **Christine Coster,** who works in insurance; **Catherine Hong,** who lives with her family near Columbia but is about to move to the suburbs; **Michele Smith** and her husband; **Amanda Schachter,** who is an architect in NYC; **Rhanda Moussa,** who is an in-house attorney at Barclays; **Jennie Kim Harman,** who lives in Brooklyn with her husband, Jason, and their son and is an in-house attorney for CME Group; and **Andy Schmeltz, Miriam Friedlander** and **Linda Appel Lipsius.** I also spent time with **Sara Niego,** who grew up with my husband and now lives with her husband, Petr, and three children in Avon, Conn., where she is a psychiatrist, as well as Liz Hale '93 Barnard and Jeanne Marie Liggio '93 Barnard.

As our dinner came to a close, **Alan Cohn,** who lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife and kids and serves as the assistant secretary for strategy, planning, analysis and risk in the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Policy, and **Alan Freeman,** who also lives in D.C. with his wife and two boys and is a partner at Blank Rome, came to get me to visit our fathers — Peter Cohn '58, Arthur Freeman '58 and Paul Gomperz '58 — who were celebrating their 55th reunion. We took a great picture with all of our parents outside of Low Library and discussed later in the evening how particularly special that moment was for each of us. After dancing under the stars on Low Plaza until after midnight, the Class of '93 continued the fun at a bar near Koronet Pizza (allowing for everyone to sneak out at different times to get a slice and refuel). When the bar closed around 3 a.m., yet another group of us went to the market next door, grabbed some beer and finished the evening sitting out on The Steps, not wanting the weekend to end.

Finally, we were sad to miss classmates who had long distances to travel (e.g., other continents) and those who were prevented from making it due to personal circumstances. Fortunately we get to do it all again in five years!

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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94

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It's hard to believe, but we are coming up on the two-decade mark since our graduation. How is that even possible, when none of us has aged a bit? But 20 years is an impressive marker — let's be sure to celebrate together! Alumni Reunion Weekend is Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. Please save the date, and if you'd like to get involved with planning events or with fundraising, contact the appropriate staff member listed at the top of the column.

It's been a slow news quarter, but I do have a lovely update from **Kay Bailey,** who recently started a job as a grant writer for the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA.org). WOLA is a nonprofit that promotes human rights, social justice and democracy in Latin America.

Kay is responsible for WOLA's relationships with charitable foundations, writing grant proposals, working with funders during a project and reporting back when it's done. She says, "Since a lot of that interaction happens in writing, I write a lot, which I love. And I write about an organization whose work I am very proud of and whose staff and history I have tremendous respect for. This lets me be involved in helping out my favorite region, speaking Spanish and Portuguese, and being peripherally involved in legal/policy reform, which is the closest I want to come to practicing law again. The job is just a dream come true. I walk around wanting to pinch myself."

In other news, Kay writes, daughters Amanda and Elisa are 4½ and "like to wear fake tattoos on their faces, draw on their legs and decorate cardboard boxes. Like their mother."

That's it for now. More updates, please! We're all eager for your news. Send them to me at the email address at the top of the column or use *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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Congratulations to three Ph.D. holders who wrote with updates about their careers.

Paul Scolieri is a tenured professor at Barnard and holds the title of associate professor of dance. His book *Dancing the New World: Aztecs, Spaniards, and the Choreography of Conquest* was the inaugural publication in the Latin American and Caribbean Arts and Culture series, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. He's also at work on a second book, a biography of Ted Shawn, who is known as "the father of American dance."

Between graduation at Columbia and being granted tenure at Barnard, Paul earned a Ph.D. in performance studies at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and completed two fellowships at Harvard. He lives with his partner, Lavinel Savu '94, assistant managing editor at *InStyle* magazine.

Ben Michaelis, a clinical psychologist, writes that he, too, has pub-

Melinka Thompson-Godoy '98 Helps Create Movie Magic

By Laura Butchy '04 Arts

Watching James Bond motorcycle across rooftops, moviegoers rarely stop to think about the hundreds of people who make those moments possible. If all goes well, what is real and what was created through effects blends together into movie magic, created by film experts such as visual effects producer **Melinka Thompson-Godoy '98.**

The work of a visual effects producer changes day to day, which is one reason Thompson-Godoy loves what she does.

At her desk at Double Negative Visual Effects in London, she juggles budgets and spreadsheets to ensure effects are finished on time and to the satisfaction of the client and her company. She is a liaison between Double Negative's visual effects artists and a film's director as well as the visual effects and production teams. On location, Thompson-Godoy often interacts with the visual effects team and many other artists, including the director, editors, special effects department and art department.

"Melinka worked with her team of artists to deliver on schedule 403 stunning visual effects shots," says Leslie Lerman, who was VFX producer and Thompson-Godoy's client on the 2012 blockbuster *Skyfall*. "In the film world, the edit and/or the artistic design can change overnight. Sometimes a shot you've been working on for months can end up on the cutting room floor. Melinka always handled those pressure situations with poise."

Thompson-Godoy's experience with *Skyfall* marks part of what she describes as her "favorite year." In 2012, she moved to London to accept a position at Double Negative just in time for the Olympics and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Her resume already included memorable projects all over the United States, from her first gig in Los Angeles on the Kevin Costner vehicle *For Love of the Game* (1999) to assisting on the first season of the hit television series *Lost* (2004) on location in Hawaii.

Travel is natural for Thompson-Godoy, who was born in Colombia and, starting at 4, lived in many locations throughout the U.S. as her family moved to follow her parents' education and work.

She also has been fascinated with film from an early age. "As a teenager, and even before, I loved to watch *HBO Behind the Scenes*," she says. "You would see it all come together. I always wanted to do that."

After researching New York schools that offered film majors, Thompson-Godoy decided she wanted to study more than film and chose the College. "The idea of having a Core Curriculum and learning about every discipline was very cool to me," she says.

She majored in film studies and earned a spot on the Dean's List all four years; off-campus, she took as much film work as she could find. As an intern on the George Clooney and Michelle Pfeiffer romance *One Fine Day* (1996), Thompson-Godoy observed everything in the production. "I'm detail-oriented, and producers had a hand from beginning to end," she says about her choice to become a producer. "I learned what I wanted to be as well as what not to do."

After graduation, Thompson-Godoy was senior assistant to Ted Hope, a producer and then–co-owner of the independent film company Good Machine. She later was a production executive on the unconventional biopic *American Splendor* (2003) and the film adaptation of the play *The Laramie Project* (2002) before reuniting with a friend from Carman 8, Chris Perkel '98, to produce *The Town That Was* (2007), a documentary about a town in Pennsylvania destroyed by an underground mine fire; Perkel also directed.

"Melinka's greatest strength, in my opinion, is her commitment," Perkel says. "She works harder and cares more than anyone and that's why everyone loves working with her. She loves films, she loves her work and she's completely dedicated to the tasks at hand and the welfare of the project."



Melinka Thompson-Godoy '98 in the lobby of her office at Double Negative Visual Effects.
PHOTO: EMILY PEARCE

Though she had never worked in the field, visual effects company Amoeba Proteus hired and trained her as a visual effects coordinator in 2003. "Being that I was always so fascinated with what happens behind the scenes, visual effects is almost like working with a magician who shows you how the trick you always liked was done," Thompson-Godoy explains. "It was really cool, and each year the technology advances."

For the next few years she worked for several companies and productions, including *Lost*. She became visual effects producer at Look Effects in 2007. During her four years at the company, she worked on films as diverse as the fantasy sequel *Underworld: Awakening* (2012), psychological thriller *Black Swan* (2010), comic book adaptation *Captain America: The First Avenger* (2011) and historical drama *The King's Speech* (2010). The variety in content is one of the aspects of her work that stimulates Thompson-Godoy.

Her efforts haven't gone unnoticed. In 2008, she was nominated for a Primetime Emmy for her contributions to the History Channel film *Life After People*, and she was nominated for a Visual Effects Society Award for her work on the sixth season of *Lost* in 2011.

Thompson-Godoy's current project is *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire*. The much-anticipated second film in the series, set to release in November, is sure to be filled with incredible visual effects created in part by her. Although, she points out, "If we do our job properly, then no one notices. It's a curse and praise that no one knows how much work you put into something."

To view a clip of the official Skyfall *trailer, which showcases Thompson-Godoy's work, go to YouTube.com.*

Laura Butchy '04 Arts *is a professor, dramaturg and writer based in Brooklyn.*

lished his first book, *Your Next Big Thing: 10 Small Steps to Get Moving and Get Happy*. It's aimed at helping people make good decisions when they are feeling stuck. Ben, who earned a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from NYU in 2004, worked as an expert for the court system in New York for a few years and ran the psychological assessment service at St. Luke's Hospital before opening a private office in 2005.

In his clinical practice, Ben works with people from diverse backgrounds with an emphasis on helping those who feel stuck in their creative process, often writers and performers. His practice is downtown and he lives with his wife and two kids in Brooklyn. Ben writes for The Huffington Post and *Psychology Today*. Check out his website: drbenmichaelis.com.

Svetlana Bochman, formerly Brook, has been appointed director of the City College Writing Center. She oversees 40 tutors and staff with the goal of providing one-on-one tutoring for City College students, helping with their course papers and any other writing.

She continues, "I also serve on committees to help promote better writing among students and am part of several college-wide initiatives. I'm excited because I'm working on bringing online synchronous tutoring to City College so that students can get tutored in real time from home."

Svetlana has earned a Ph.D. in English and taught as an adjunct assistant professor of English for more than 10 years, mostly at CUNY. Her specialty is 19th-century British literature and she has published and spoken at conferences on Jane Austen, Oscar Wilde and Sherlock Holmes.

Svetlana married Alon Bochman '02 Business and they have two daughters, Rachel Alice (8) and Emma Sharon (5). "Since I love 19th-century British literature, I named my daughters after Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and Jane Austen's *Emma*," she writes.

She also had a company, Bochman Tutoring, with five tutors offering graduate school admissions consulting and test prep for the GMAT, GRE, LSAT and MCAT. She spoke several times at Columbia about graduate school admissions.

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Greetings, classmates! I hope you had a fun and relaxing summer.

Chris Glaros recently left a job working with Marian Wright Edelman as managing director and general counsel with the Children's Defense Fund and started at Ohio State University as a.v.p. of compliance operations and investigations. Chris is still enjoying Columbus with his wife, Lauren, and their children, Lincoln and Grace.

Pete Freeman is a partner in the real estate and finance group at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman in Washington, D.C., and lives in Bethesda, Md., with his wife, Jill Fine '96 Barnard, and children, Lily (9) and Max (6).

Aun Koh is in Singapore running his integrated communications agency, The Ate Group. Aun writes that his company has carved out a great niche as the best local agency for public relations, events and social media for lifestyle industries, with a strong focus on food and beverage, luxury and hospitality.

Aun and his wife recently celebrated their son's second birthday. In addition, last year he relaunched his website, Chubby Hubby (chubbyhubby.net), after taking a year off to focus on work and parenting. Now, Chubby Hubby has more than a dozen writers spread around the world and a full-time editor based in Hong Kong. The website is getting a lot of attention; Aun was in the Tōhoku region of Japan in early February at the invitation of the Japanese government, and the Japanese government published a booklet covering Aun's experience and observations.

Aun also spends time pursuing his culinary interests. In May, he took part in the Noosa International Food & Wine Festival, where he spoke and cooked. He also participated as one of the judges in the Australian heat of Diageo's World's Finest Cocktail contest, as well as the Asian heat of Diplomatico Rum's World Cocktail Competition.

Constantine Dimas was promoted earlier this year to s.v.p., asset management, at Loews Hotels. In this role, he is responsible for conceiving and implementing key brand-defining initiatives, cultivating revenue-generating strategic partnerships and repositioning hotels through real estate programming. Constantine began his career with Loews as the director of food and beverage for the company's flagship property, the Loews Regency Hotel. He became v.p. of food and beverage for the brand in 2010 and took on the role of v.p. of asset management in early 2012. Under his leadership the company already has established partnerships with well-known names in the industry including Lure Fishbar, Exhale spa and INK Entertainment.

In addition to having owned several hospitality-related businesses, Constantine served as deputy chief of staff to Sen. Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.). In this role he worked on a range of issues including power deregulation and economic development for upstate New York, and he aided in launching several New York State-based businesses. Constantine lives with his wife and son in Bronxville, N.Y.

Kate Villa has spent the years since graduation as a fundraiser for nonprofit companies in NYC and New England. She now is a fundraising consultant with CCS and spent a large portion of the last year in Bangor, Maine, working with local authors Stephen and Tabitha King to raise $9 million for the Bangor Public Library.

Maurice (Mo) Toueg recently finished celebrating his 15-year anniversary with Capstone Partners, an executive search firm. He writes that, as a creature of habit, he still lives on the Upper East Side, a block away from where he grew up.

Wendy Lefko Messeloff and her husband live in Wendy's hometown of Cleveland with their kids, Alex (6) and twins Dahlia and Ariel (4). Wendy recently began as a grant writer at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. She writes that she recently had the privilege of hearing one of her favorite Columbia professors, Andrew Delbanco, deliver a guest lecture at a local university, and that it was such a pleasure to hear him again after all this time and to find that he remains not only the passionate and thoughtful scholar and lecturer she remembered but also a genuinely gracious human being and just a nice guy. Wendy stays in touch with **Ed Rosenfeld** and his wife, Jen Rosenfeld '96 Barnard. Ed and Jen live in Stamford, Conn., and have had their hands full since the birth of their fifth child, a girl named Yael, in July 2012.

Jeremy Craig is coming up on 13 years in Singapore and writes that he is still doing a great job at avoiding the real world by running an SAT preparation company (testtakers-sg.com), which helps finance his numerous golf trips.

Elizabeth Yuan moved to New York in March from Hong Kong, where she had been a digital producer for CNN.com International since 2007. She now works for WSJ.com and writes that she is excited to be back in the United States and in NYC after having left 14 years ago. She also would be happy to hear from classmates: eyuaninhk@gmail.com.

That's it for this time. If you have sent notes and they have not yet appeared, bear with me; they will be featured in the next column. For now, I leave you with this nugget from one of my favorite musicians:

"If you don't know the blues …

there's no point in picking up the guitar and playing rock and roll or any other form of popular music."
— *Keith Richards*

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Thanks, CC '97, for writing with all your news! Please continue to send word of our classmates' exciting endeavors.

First off, we have some published authors in our midst! **Boris Kachka**'s first book, *Hothouse: The Art of Survival and the Survival of Art at America's Most Celebrated Publishing House, Farrar, Straus & Giroux*, came out in August (see Bookshelf in this issue). Boris explains, "It's the unauthorized cultural history of the prestigious FSG, and I'll defer to the blurb from Junot Díaz, who calls it '*Mad Men* for the literary world.' Toni Morrison said nice things about it, too. There's much more about it on my website (to spare me any more embarrassing shilling): boriskachka.com." Meanwhile, **Susanna Daniel**'s second novel, *Sea Creatures*, came out in hardcover in July. Abraham Verghese, a physician and three-time bestselling author, called it "a captivating, haunting novel" and *Library Journal* called it "substantive domestic drama."

A number of you wrote in to share that you live abroad. **Jenny Vendetti Fernandez** is a writer/editor living in Hong Kong since 2011 with her husband, Juan, and their daughters, ages 6 and 4. They are having a blast and traveling around Asia. She would love to connect with anyone who is in the area. **Daniel Anderson** has been teaching English at the Hiram Bingham School (a British model secondary school) in Lima, Peru, and, as of this writing, was deciding whether he wants to continue living south of the equator or move back to his adopted home of sunny Los Angeles in August. He has been playing his own brand of country/folk/rock in clubs and cafés, which, he writes, "definitely sticks out and is unique here in Latin America."

Petra Lappalainen is proud to announce the birth of her second child, Saga Lucia Annika Lappalainen, on June 8 in Melbourne, Australia. Saga is sister to Magnus Brenchley (8½). The family planned to spend time with relatives in Finland from July '13 to January '14. Petra would love to catch up with CC alumni visiting Helsinki.

Rebekah Gee married David Patron in October 2010. Their twins, Elizabeth and Eva, were born on November 5, 2012.

Many of you wrote in with exciting professional news. **Erich Anderer** is a neurosurgeon at Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn. **Henry Grosman** '05 Arch. officially launched his own architecture practice, BanG studio, with a classmate from the Architecture School. He writes: "It's been a little more than a year and it's going well. We're doing a lot of residential work including two apartment renovations in NYC, and we're designing the interiors for the largest residential development in downtown Brooklyn. Our website is b-an-g.com." **Christopher Johnston** lives with his wife, Rachel Reinhard '96 Barnard, in Oakland, Calif., and teaches English at Oakland H.S. He spent the summer in Chengdu, China, training a new batch of Peace Corps members.

Shana Kusin writes, "In July I joined the faculty at Oregon Health and Sciences University as an assistant professor of emergency medicine and toxicology and also as the clinical informatics director for the emergency department. I've been at OHSU doing a fellowship in medical toxicology for the last two years (graduation is in two weeks!). Other news: This month I also completed a yearlong creative writing fellowship at The Attic Institute and am trying to wrap up the first draft of my novel (aka, 'The Great American Medical Rock Novel' — must … finish …)."

Dr. **Wei Angela Liu** has been named head of physical medicine and rehabilitation at Phelps Memorial Hospital Center in Sleepy Hollow, N.Y., where she will oversee inpatient and outpatient rehabilitative care. She is a faculty member at the NYU School of Medicine and a practicing doctor at the Rusk Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine.

Mark Bunin Benor and **Sarah Bunin Benor** live in Los Angeles with their daughters, Aliza (10), Dalia (8) and Ariella (5). Mark is a family doctor and worked for several years at the Los Angeles Free Clinic. Now he is at T.H.E. (To Help Everyone) Clinic in South Los Angeles and is helping to start a clinic for adults and children with developmental disabilities, The Achievable Clinic. Sarah received tenure at Hebrew Union College, where she teaches contemporary Jewish studies and linguistics to HUC master's students and undergraduates at the USC. She published a book based on her dissertation, *Becoming Frum: How Newcomers Learn the Language and Culture of Orthodox Judaism*, and she is founding editor of the *Journal of Jewish Languages* and the *Jewish English Lexicon*.

I look forward to hearing from more of you soon!

Columbia College Alumni on Facebook

Check out the new Columbia College Alumni page!
facebook.com/alumnicc
Like the page to get alumni news, learn about alumni events and College happenings, view photos and more.

98

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Hello, Class of 1998! Usually our post-reunion Class Notes column is huge and filled with names but unfortunately I was unable to attend. A few classmates, however, came to the rescue.

Andy Topkins was sweet enough to send a reunion update via Facebook. He mentioned that **Brooks Herman** and his wife, **Joanna Herman** (née Erman), came in from San Diego, Calif. (they have two kids, Jacob and Sophie). **Kate Olivier** came in from Spain. **Matt Ahn** was there, having recently taken a new job in-house at Oracle. **Alejandra Montenegro Almonte** was there with her husband, Jorge. She's general counsel of a big airline services company, gategroup, in the Washington, D.C., area. **Hilton Marcus** attended as well. After years in D.C., he recently moved back to NYC and lives in Brooklyn.

Jeannette Jakus and **Ben Kornfeind** attended the Friday cocktail reception. Jeannette reported that she spoke mostly to people she already knew, including **Justin Garrett** and his wife, Rachel, who live in Brooklyn with their daughters, Jane and Roxanne; Andy, who also has two kids; and Brooks and Joanna. Jeannette adds, "I spoke with **Abigail Lorge,** who is married and lives in Connecticut. She gave birth to her first child, Eliza, on May 1, and still managed to show up to the reunion looking fabulous!"

Yelena Dudochkin, who wasn't able to attend, wrote with an exciting update about her career switch: "I'm sorry to have missed the reunion but I was creating the role of Chernyafka in the world premiere of *The Magic Mirror,* an opera by Polina Nazaykinskaya." The production was part of the New York International Fringe Festival in August. She continues, "Since the last reunion, I have transitioned out of my Wall Street/finance career (Morgan Stanley) to a full-time soprano career in opera and jazz. My productions and concerts have taken me all over the United States and Europe and to some prestigious stages such as Carnegie Hall, Boston Symphony Hall and Jordan Hall. I also married my then-fiancé, David Berry, a partner at Flagship Ventures who focuses on innovating, entrepreneurship and investing in new ventures in life sciences and sustainability. We enjoy our busy lives in Boston!"

Adria Armbrister added a status update to our class Facebook page. She "is still single and child-free, living in Colombia and working for the Inter-American Development Bank." She said the hours are long, especially on Fridays and Saturdays, and she is traveling too much for work and not enough for herself.

Mazel tov to **Shira Schnitzer,** who married Graeme Cohen on June 16 in her hometown of Rockville, Md. Shira and Graeme live in Brixton, a super-cool neighborhood in London (very Brooklyn, apparently), and she does high-level fundraising for Imperial College London as well as cooks at every possible opportunity.

Thanks to Shira's June wedding, my husband, Hans Chen '97, and I were able to have dinner with **Julie Yufe** and her husband, Michael Dreyer. Julie was about to start her first day at Anheuser-Busch InBev as a v.p. for global innovations. Julie is a rock star brand manager who spent seven years at Unilever and was selected in May as one of Brand Innovators' (a community of more than 2,000 brand managers) 2013 "40 Under 40" Brand-Marketing Champions. Not only does Julie have a new job but she also has a new address, as she and Michael bought an apartment on the Upper East Side, across the street from her previous one.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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99

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Greetings, Class of '99. By the time you receive this issue, plans will be

under way for our 15-year reunion. Save the dates now: Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. Hopefully, we will have as great a turnout as we did for our 10th. If you want to partake in planning, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or one of the Alumni Office staff members listed at the top of the column.

In terms of class giving, I'm happy to share that we broke several records last fiscal year. We had the most participation ever for our class, and we raised more than $90,000, surpassing our initial goal of $60,000. I want to give a big shout-out to former Alumni Office staff member Harrison Kobb, who was tasked with our class in recent years and was instrumental in our reaching our goals.

Now for some nice updates: **Brad Neuberg** married his love, Abby Volk, on July 27 in a beautiful and historic gold rush town called Nevada City, located in Northern California near the Yuba River. Guests also attended a wedding retreat, which involved swimming and relaxing by the river, for a few days before the big event. They even had a yoga teacher on site to teach poses and share positive karma. **Susan Kassin** was there; unfortunately, I could not make it.

Tony Castaneda lives in Washington, D.C., where he works for a defense-related company. Prior to that he was in media, first as a journalist covering the Iraq War for the Associated Press and later as a producer for *Charlie Rose*. Tony has swung by a couple of alumni events in the D.C. area and vows to be more proactive. (I hope we will see you at our reunion next year, Tony.)

Tony also reports that when he was in New York recently he ran into Mikhail Goberman '00. I then reached out to Mikhail, who has had some truly amazing years since graduation. He spent some time backpacking in the Congo, where he discovered a passion for wildlife, and now he works in the primates division at the Bronx Zoo. He recently finished a book about his experiences and it has received some interest from publishers, so maybe we'll see it on the shelves someday soon. The tentative title is *From the Congo to the Bronx: How I Helped Heal a Wounded Gorilla — and Myself.*

That's all the updates we have for this go-round. Again, by all means, if you are interested in getting involved with planning our 15-year reunion, please email me and I will put you in touch with the Reunion Committee, or contact the appropriate staff member listed at the top of the column. I hope to see many of you next May!

00

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No updates in the inbox this time around. Let's do better for the future. Your friends and classmates want to hear from you! You can write me at the email or postal address above, or submit news via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

01

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I hope everyone enjoyed the summer! My Facebook feed has been humming with lots of baby news. Keep all the good news coming.

Courtney Vowels and her husband, **John Garnevicus**, welcomed their son, Elijah Forster Garnevicus-Vowels, on April 29. Elijah weighed 8 lbs., 14 oz. and was 22 inches long.

Jasper Cooper and his wife, Josiejing Weng, welcomed their daughter, Vali Weng Cooper, on May 23.

Adam Sokol and Bingyi Huang welcomed their son, Aaro Magnus Sokol, on December 1. Adam is an architect whose practice is based in Buffalo, N.Y. (with lots of current projects in China as well).

Katie Campion Land and Matthew Land '05 welcomed their first child, Nina Jane Land, on April 2. They happily reside in Tulsa, Okla.

Congratulations to all our new parents!

Jeff Lee announced the launch of Ryan Lee, a gallery he formed with business partner Mary Ryan and which opened to the public in late April. The gallery is located at 527 W. 26th St. in New York (ryanleegallery.com). Congratulations to Jeff! [Editor's note: See alumni profile in this issue.]

Please keep in touch; you can write me at the addresses at the top of the column or submit a note via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

02

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I hope everyone enjoyed the summer. Please send me updates at soniah57@gmail.com or submit a note via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Thank you!

Tze Chun and his wife, Cara McKenney, had their first baby, Henry Hazelwood Chun, on July 14, 2012. In November, Tze wrapped his second feature film, a crime thriller starring Bryan Cranston, Alice Eve and Logan Marshall-Green, green-titled *Cold Comes the Night*. He co-wrote and directed the movie.



Brad Neuberg '99 married Abby Volk on July 27 in Nevada City, Calif., near the Yuba River. The couple is pictured with (far right) Susan Kassin '99.

Max Saffian and his wife, Randi, are the proud parents of Lane Thompson Saffian, born on June 4.

Michael Canino '02E has a private psychiatry practice in Philadelphia.

James Cain was recently married in Austin. He and his wife have moved there, as he is starting a job with a commercial real estate private equity firm.

Lindsay Jurist-Rosner is a v.p. of marketing at Simulmedia, a Union Square Ventures-backed technology start-up.

03

Michael Novielli
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Thank you to the Reunion Committee, and to all who attended Alumni Reunion Weekend, for making our 10th an absolute blast. The festivities began on May 30 with a reception at Greenwich Village Country Club at Bowlmor. On Friday, those who were able to get away from work went to a series of lectures and performances on campus and on a Chelsea Art Gallery Crawl. Friday night was a ton of fun, as Dean James J. Valentini joined us for drinks at a class reception at Avenue before we joined the Young Alumni Party on the *U.S.S. Intrepid*. It's a shame that this is technically our last year as young alumni, but we'll always be young at heart, right? Something like that.

Saturday was a packed day with more lectures and events on campus, but the highlight was our class reception and dinner on South Field, followed by the all-class Starlight Reception on Low Plaza. And many of us continued the fun at The Heights (followed by karaoke) late into the evening. Some of the folks who made it to The Heights included **Hector Rivera, Michelle Hodara, Alex Specht, Andy So, Jeffrey Hsieh, Michael Chee, Nimmi Pillalamarri** and **Raheleh Hatami.** And throughout the course of the weekend, former class presidents **Kimberly Grant, Lee Goldberg** and **Bryan Berkett** were in attendance.

In other reunion news, our class successfully raised $67,206 from 174 donors in support of financial aid, student services, summer internship stipends and the Core Curriculum. Including dollars raised for Athletics, CC '03 raised more than $98,000 in Fiscal Year 2013.

Those who have more news to share from our reunion should

Art Means Business for Jeffrey Lee '01

By Mary Jean Babic



Jeffrey Lee '01, who co-owns the Ryan Lee Gallery in NYC, credits Art Humanities for his career path.
PHOTO: DEREK PIECH

Trim and welcoming in black-rimmed glasses, **Jeffrey Lee '01** is a gracious guide around the new Ryan Lee Gallery, which he co-owns with Mary Ryan, in the Manhattan neighborhood of Chelsea. On this June day, the gallery is exhibiting the work of young artist Bradley Castellanos. Lee draws a visitor's attention to Castellanos' technique of layering paint over large-format photographs, lending an otherworldly feel to the stark landscapes. They hardly look like photos at all. Lee explains that because photography is ubiquitous these days, on social media and elsewhere, young artists are driven more than ever to break out of existing ideas of what photography can be.

Clearly, this is what Lee loves — championing artists whose work speaks to him — and he has built a career doing just that. For more than a decade, Lee worked at the former Mary Ryan Gallery, which occupied the same ground-floor space on West 26th Street. This spring, he and his former boss became business partners, launching their eponymous joint venture. It all started, Lee says, with the Art Humanities class he took his freshman year. "That was a wonderful, eye-opening experience," says Lee. His initial intentions of taking up a math or science major vanished as he grew more engrossed, especially once the syllabus hit the 20th century; socialist realism was an early passion.

Lee became smitten with Columbia when, while visiting a friend at The Juilliard School, he strolled across College Walk and took in the campus for the first time. "It was love at first sight," he says. Learning about Columbia's academics, the Core Curriculum excited him as a way to explore subjects he might not otherwise have chosen.

Born in Seoul, Lee was 7 when he moved with his mother and older sister to the suburbs of Washington, D.C., to be near his mother's family. His father remained in Seoul, visiting the family twice a year. Lee's upbringing, he says, did not include much art appreciation, so Art Humanities marked his first significant encounter with the subject. In his spare time, Lee hopped around museums to view firsthand some of the very art that he was studying in class. "Having the city as an integral part of my college experience was life-altering," he says.

He decided to stay in New York the summer after freshman year. Browsing through job listings at the Center for Career Education he stumbled upon an internship opportunity at the Mary Ryan Gallery, then on West 57th Street.

As Ryan's intern, Lee worked on the estate of Louis Lozowick, a Russian émigré artist who died in 1973. Much of the collection eventually went to the Whitney. The experience gave Lee his first glimpse of art world business and it dawned on him that this was something he could do with his life. When he returned to Columbia his sophomore year there was no question that he'd major in art history. He held internships each summer while in college — at MoMA, at Cooper-Hewitt — and he studied abroad in Paris his junior year. This afforded him the opportunity to travel around European cities, "which is basically like walking around museums," he says. One of his favorite trips was to Istanbul, where he visited the Blue Mosque and Hagia Sophia.

In 2003, Lee bumped into Ryan at an art auction. She offered him the job of assistant director at her gallery. He accepted, and a few years later he rose to gallery director.

Ryan calls Lee "a great art dealer," with a keen eye for identifying exciting art. "It's easy to do it when the names are known," she says. "It's more difficult to do it when people are starting out."

Lee likens his job to that of a literary agent — he sells art he loves to appreciative buyers and also helps new artists navigate the business side of the creative enterprise. He maintains relationships with collectors, curators and other serious buyers while always being on the lookout for compelling artists to represent. Since he started in the business, Lee says, art fairs have become more critical for getting artists, dealers, gallery owners and buyers together. He goes to about five a year, indulging his passion for travel. Everything, however, is done in the interest of artists. "The more visibility the gallery can have, the better it is for the artists," says Lee.

The economics of running a gallery are daunting. Lee provides this example: If a gallery mounts a show with 10 paintings, each priced at $10,000, and all sell, the gallery will end up with $50,000 after splitting the proceeds with the artist (standard practice). That's a trifle in pricey Manhattan, and it's rare for a show to sell out. A robust network of collectors behind the scenes is essential. That's why having an experienced partner like Ryan, who started her gallery in 1981, is so valuable, says Lee.

"This allowed us to get a new gallery that can focus on contemporary art from all over the world" — the gallery will feature both emerging and established artists — "and that gives a nice dialogue on how art can look," Lee says.

Ryan Lee Gallery's inaugural exhibition, of art by Korean-born artist Sangbin IM, ran from April 26–May 24.

Like any art dealer, Lee gets a buzz from closing a sale, but says nothing brings him joy like "placing work that you're passionate about from artists you care about very much with institutions and private collectors. It's just so gratifying."

Mary Jean Babic *is a freelance writer who lives in Brooklyn. Her most recent article for* CCT *was a profile of Nate Bliss '05.*



James Maclean '03 and Sanne Grandt were married on August 25, 2012, in Waitsfield, Vt. Columbians on hand to celebrate included (left to right) Andrew Brill '03, Josh Lebewohl '03, Jonas Mendoza '03, Cezary Podkul '11J, the bride, the groom, Ellen Kettle '93 Business, Graciela Ibanez '08J, Romy Lipkis '03, Charles Williamson '13E and Travis Tatko '03.

PHOTO: BIRKE PHOTOGRAPHY

please send along an update and I'll include it in a future column.

In other news, **Christine Murphy** gave a gift to the Aaron and James Satloff Scholarship Fund. Christine had been the first recipient of this scholarship — which James Satloff '84 established when his father, Aaron Satloff '56, turned 65 — and she said she wanted to give back to the scholarship that had helped her. In response, James matched her donation 100-to-1 with a gift to the scholarship in her honor.

Christina Wright writes, "I was bummed to miss reunion but I was actually at **Michael LaVigne**'s wedding in Keystone, Colo. In terms of life updates, last June I left my job as an admissions counselor at Marquette University to pursue a graduate certificate in digital storytelling, also at Marquette. This was one of the best decisions I have ever made. I am now writing for a Milwaukee-based arts and entertainment magazine, thirdcoastdaily.com, as well as for the popular competitive swimming website swimswam.com.

"In April, I spent a week in Germany with one of the oldest members of Facebook, 103-year-old Oma Ella Kastner. You can read much more about the trip at passionpassport.com/current-trip and see a short movie that I made about it at vimeo.com/70130892. I was able to take this trip because I won Passion Passport's Bucket List Initiative travel grant contest. Coincidentally, the founder of Passion Passport is Zach Glassman '09. It's funny how things work out when you take a risk to really pursue what you love doing; it seems like the pieces have fallen into place and there are only more and more opportunities for me to be creative! I am realizing that living the freelance life is pretty rewarding."

Seth Wax writes, "In June, I graduated from the Rabbinical School of Hebrew College, a pluralistic school in Newton, Mass. Starting in July, I became rabbi at Congregation Mount Sinai, an independent synagogue in Brooklyn Heights, N.Y."

Janice (Shore) Berg writes, "In October 2012 I started my own law practice in family law in Houston, and in February of this year I argued a case in front of the Supreme Court of Texas. I'm still waiting on the decision."

Beth Mickle reports, "I'm a production designer for film and television, and I designed the sets for *2 GUNS*, the Denzel Washington/Mark Wahlberg film that came out this summer. I also designed the film *Only God Forgives*, with Ryan Gosling, which was released in art house theatres."

Afia Owusu-Sekyere writes, "I recently moved to San Francisco to take a new role in marketing at Genentech. I look forward to reconnecting with the many CU alums living here in the Bay Area."

Jonas Divine writes, "I am sorry I missed the 10th reunion. I have been living in Toronto since fall 2011 and am a procurement manager for Vale Canada, the base metals division of a large diversified mining company. I try to get back to New York as often as possible but it is also great to spend time in another one of the most diverse and multicultural cities in North America. Looking forward to connecting with alums in Canada!"

Alex Farrill shares, "My wife, Abby Walthausen '06 Barnard, and I live in Brooklyn. I am the chief data scientist at RUN, a mobile ad tech startup in Manhattan. We recently announced a $1.5 million investment from Verizon."

Lien de Brouckere shares, "I recently moved to Washington, D.C., and am excited to be working in a new job with Global Rights, an international NGO, as its director of natural resources and human



Keri Wachter '05 and Brendan Norwood '09 P&S were married on October 20 in Larchmont, N.Y. Columbians in attendance included (left to right) Eva Rosen '05 Barnard, Jackson Shafer '05, Leela Sarathy '05, the groom, the bride, Paul Wright '05, Merry Boak '05 and Justin Ifill '06.
PHOTO: RJ KERN

rights. I get to advise its country offices in Nigeria, Uganda, Burundi and Afghanistan on programming around natural resource extraction and protecting communities' rights, and also implement projects with additional partners to build capacity of local civil society organizations to support affected communities."

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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04

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It's been quiet — no doubt a sign that everyone had a busy summer. But why not share a little about it with classmates? We want to hear your news, whether family, career or otherwise. You can write me at the email or postal address above, or submit updates online via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Also, don't forget to mark your calendars for our 10th reunion: May 29–June 1, 2014. It'd be great to see as many of you as possible! If you want to be involved with planning, get in touch with either of the Alumni Office contacts at the top of the column.

05

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Happy fall! To think that 10 years ago we were recently minted graduates of Contemporary Civilization inching our ways toward legal drinking age …

My 2013 started with a Columbia College reunion, or a Ruggles reunion to be more precise. Aashti Bhartia '06, **Jenn Legum Weber,** Brian Overland '04 and I — four of our seven Ruggles 2 suitemates — reunited in Bangalore, India, for Brian's wonderful wedding and related festivities.

Luis Saucedo also reports impromptu reunions with erstwhile dormmates: "Last year I started working down the street from a couple of Carman 12ers in Washington, D.C. — **Marika Bertram** (née Butler), who works at HUD, and **Matthew Rotman,** who works at the Department of Energy."

This year has held many a major career move, and actual move, for some classmates:

Josh Hadro was appointed deputy director, reference and research services, at the New York Public Library. He previously was executive editor for *Library Journal,* a trade magazine that covers the library profession.

Merlin Chowkwanyun was finishing his dissertation and graduating with a joint-degree in history and public health from Penn this past summer. He says, "For the next two years, I'll be a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholar at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health, continuing a few projects on racial health disparities, environmental health and health care systems. Would love to get in touch with anyone in the area!"

Carrington Lee says, "In May, I joined law firm Sullivan & Cromwell as assistant manager of associate development. I'm still in the Financial District and excited for the new opportunity."

Caitlin Verrilli '13 Business reports, "I graduated in May with an M.B.A. and am a program director at the New York City Health and Hospitals Corp."

Maggie Gram was finishing a Ph.D. at Harvard this past summer. She writes, "This fall I'm headed to St. Louis to take a postdoc at Washington University. I'd love visitors; I haven't spent very much time in St. Louis but I hear it's a great town!"

Saadya Scott Zakheim says, "My wife, Rebecca; our daughter, Olivia (1); and I moved back to our home state of Maryland in early July. I recently took a job at Shot Tower Capital, a boutique investment bank in Baltimore focused on media and entertainment. I will lead its business development efforts. Rebecca and I were married in April 2011 and spent the last two-plus years on Manhattan's Upper West Side."

Smith Kidkarndee reports: "I recently graduated from Pace with a doctorate in school-clinical child psychology. I hope to open a private practice in the fall."

Elizabeth Saylor is a doctoral candidate in modern Arabic literature at UC Berkeley's Near Eastern studies department. She is writing her dissertation, "A Bridge Too Soon: The Life and Works of Afifa Karam: The First Arab-American Woman Novelist," with the intention of completing a Ph.D. next year. In addition to thesis writing, Elizabeth is teaching Arabic language and literature at UC Berkeley, work she loves and has done since 2009. Elizabeth spent the past two summers running an Arabic language program in Sidi Bou Said, Tunisia. This past spring she spent two weeks in Morocco as a lecturer with a Cal alumni travel group. And in June, she joined her family in NYC to celebrate the graduation of her best friend, Alisha Lenora Liggett '04, from her medical residency program in social medicine at Montefiore Medical Center Hospital in the Bronx.

Hot off the presses, here are a few classmates who've made the news lately:

Syga Thomas's company, Maono, was covered in The Huffington Post: huffingtonpost.com/laura-dunn/giving-back-through-fashi_b_3461167.html.



Vidya Vasu-Devan '06 and Krishna Rao '06 were married in June in Los Gatos, Calif. Among the guests were (left to right) Emily Lo Gibson '06 and her husband, Marcus Gibson; Sara Rosenberg '06; Randall Li '06E and his wife, Norah Li '06 (née Garry); the groom; the bride; Anthony Bisio '06E, '10 PH; Blair Bodine '06; and Anne Thomas '06.

PHOTO: RUCHIRA CHOPRA

Ken Harada has been named managing director at Guggenheim Partners.

Doug Imbruce's company, Qwiki, was acquired by Yahoo!

And no Class Notes would be complete without a wedding or two, not least a Carman love story.

Katie Herman and **Mike Noble** were married January 4 in Washington, D.C. They met freshman year in the Carman elevator after attending a campus punk show in Lerner Hall. Katie finished an M.F.A. in poetry at Maryland this past spring, and Mike is a program coordinator at the National Foreign Language Center.

Keri Wachter married Brendan Norwood '09 P&S on October 20 in Larchmont, N.Y., surrounded by family and friends including Columbians **Merry Boak**, Justin Ifill '06, Eva Rosen '05 Barnard, **Leela Sarathy**, **Jackson Shafer** and **Paul Wright.**

Be sure to keep sending your latest news and stories of the Columbians you're running into out there in the wild world beyond Morningside Heights.

06

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Emily Ross writes, "After working on President Barack Obama '83's reelection, I have joined the Washington, D.C., staff of Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.). It is great to be working for my home state senator and I love being back on Capitol Hill."

Laura Stedman (née Schnaidt) graduated from law school in May and starting this fall will be an associate in the New York office of Shearman & Sterling.

After six years at Google and YouTube, **Andrew Stinger** has thrown his hat into the start-up ring. He is now v.p. of marketing at AppStack, a mobile technology start-up funded by Google Ventures and TomorrowVentures.

Sean Wilkes writes that 2012 was busy. "After finishing grad school at Harvard in the spring, the Army sent me back to Washington, D.C., to attend the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, the military's medical school at Walter Reed Bethesda, for my M.D. I also met up with **Brian Wagner**, **Sam Schon** and Sydney Jones '06 Barnard at **Robert Wray**'s wedding in December. Good times, great cigars and fantastic whiskey were shared by all."

Ganesh H. Betanabhatla recently joined Talara Capital Management, an energy investment firm with offices in New York and Houston, as a managing director. Ganesh will lead the firm's private investments in the oil and gas sector.

Dan Kessler is a soon-to-be married man. He also is the new director of eCards for Hallmark. Plus, he's one of the writers behind the hit young adult novel *The Social Code*. One of these four sentences is a lie.

This past June, **Vidya Vasu-Devan** married **Krishna Rao** under the redwoods in Los Gatos, Calif. They were thrilled to celebrate with great friends from the Class of 2006, including **Anne Thomas; Blair Bodine; Emily Lo; Sara Rosenberg** and her fiancé, **Anthony Bisio '06E; Norah Li** (née Garry) and her husband, **Randall Li '06E;** and **Andrew Lichtenberg** and his fiancée, **Michelle Lee.** Vidya and Krishna are excited to be starting their married life in Seattle.

Aaron Karp writes, "On May 26, I married the love of my life and the funniest girl I've ever met, Carla Pasquale. Three generations of Columbia Karps were at the wedding, including best man and brother, Joshua Karp '04, '07L; bridesmaid and sister, Rachel Karp '10; sister-in-law Rona Behar Karp '04; father, Hillel Karp '71; uncle David Karp '72, '79L, aunt Barbara Illowsky P. Karp '80 P&S, and grandmother Deborah Burstein Karp '43 Barnard, '89 GSAS. Also in attendance from the larger Columbia family were groomsmen **Alexander Crohn, Jason Lichtman '06E** and Jared Hutter '09 Arch., along with Sonia Marquez '04, **Robert Johnson, Sy Cabria,** Amanda Houle '06 Barnard, Leora Holzer (née Rosenblum) '06 Barnard, **Alan Rabinowitz '06E** and Danaya Mesa '10. I was lucky to share the day with so many Lions!"

Thanks to all for sharing these meaningful updates with us. We look forward to hearing from more of you next quarter!

07

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I hope that everyone had a great summer! As usual, members of the Class of 2007 are up to exciting and inspiring things.

Riddhi Dasgupta shares, "In April, I published *International Interplay: The Future of Expropriation Across International Dispute Settlement*. Last year, our think tank The Wilberforce Society (at Cambridge University) fulfilled its commission to draft a proposed Constitution of Tunisia, which has been constructive to the post-Arab Spring governance in that country. We were blessed with the featuring of this proposed constitution on BBC and NPR, and our think tank was commended with a Special Mention in *Prospect* magazine's Think Tank Awards 2013. On a personal note, I'll be kicking off a J.D. at UC Berkeley, so all Columbians are welcome to pop into my humble abode on the West Coast! Reinventions and new pastures!"

The American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) has conferred top honors to **Veli N. Yashin** for a presentation made at its 2012 annual meeting, held at Brown. In addition, Veli's essay,



Carolyn Braff '07 and Andrew Herman were married on March 23 in Philadelphia. Columbians in attendance included (left to right) Sonali Phatak '07E, Aditi Sriram '07, Ed Hambleton '07, the bride, Sasha Silver '07, Brendan Shanahan '06E, Emily Kleinman '06, Casey Levine '07 and Rebby Bliss '07.

"Euro(tro)pology: Philology, World Literature, and the Legacy of Erich Auerbach," has been selected as the winner of the 2013 Horst Frenz Prize and will be published in the *Yearbook of Comparative Literature*. Veli was awarded his prize at the 2013 ACLA conference in Toronto in April. He is a Ph.D. candidate in comparative literature (Arabic, German, Turkish) at Columbia.

TurboVote, founded by **Seth Flaxman,** recently secured $1 million in funding across three years from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. (See alumni profile in Spring 2012 *CCT*.)

Colleen Darnall, an independent music copyist in New York, married Zachary Dietz, a music director and conductor. The two were featured in *The New York Times* on May 19.

Elyse Oleksak shares some exciting (and delicious) news: "My husband, Nick Oleksak '06, and I are opening a bagel shop in the West Village called Bantam Bagels. Our mission is to 'change the way you bagel' by providing New Yorkers with fresh, mini-bagel balls filled with cream cheese. We plan to open our doors at 283 Bleecker St. in September." Check them out at bantambagels.com.

John Shekitka writes, "I'm pleased to report that I've returned to Morningside Heights full-time to continue my doctoral study at Teachers College."

Parkour, the discipline of treating the world as an obstacle course, has been **Nikkie Zanevsky**'s passion since her Columbia days. During the last several years, she's been featured in *The New York Times*, performed in NYC and China, and taught adults and kids. Last year, along with two friends, she co-founded The Movement Creative, an organization that brings parkour to hundreds of New Yorkers through regular classes and citywide festivals. Nikkie's organization works with adults, children, schools, the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation, The New School and other organizations. Nikkie says, "We believe everyone deserves a chance to learn parkour, so we give back by hosting donation-based sessions every week. Fellow alums are welcome to drop by and experience our welcoming community. You can learn more at themovementcreative.com."

Nick Weiler wrote, "I am nearing the completion of my Ph.D. in neuroscience at Stanford and, much more exciting than that, on June 22, I wed my girlfriend of five years (and fiancée of one year!), Meaghan Pugh. We were high school classmates in Oakland, Calif., and rekindled the relationship after we returned from our out-of-state collegiate tours of duty. The ceremony took place at Meaghan's family home in Calistoga, Calif."

Erica Borghard Soofian and David Soofian '04E are happy to announce the birth of twins Natalie Fay and Oliver Jack on December 16.

Earnest Sweat completed an M.B.A. and graduated from the Kellogg School of Management. He will move to San Francisco to work for The Bridgespan Group in the fall.

I (**David Chait**) also completed my M.B.A., in May, from the Business School. My fiancée, Amanda Mullens '13 Arch., and I moved to Lincoln, Neb., in June for Travefy, a travel software platform I founded while at Columbia.

Carolyn Braff writes, "I got married on March 23 in Philadelphia! I am still Carolyn Braff (I'm not changing my name), and my husband is Andrew Herman. The Columbians at the wedding did a rousing rendition of *Roar, Lion, Roar* during the cocktail hour.

"I graduated from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business a week after the wedding, and started a new job in July, working in marketing at Gatorade, which is headquartered here in Chicago. I'm really looking forward to all of the change to come!"

Mike Gambacorta is marketing director at WebThriftStore, "a web startup that sells donated items and shares the proceeds with our charity partners. We always need more donated items and more shoppers!"

Samantha Feingold writes, "I am excited to announce that I am engaged to Dr. Jonathan Criss ('97 Yale), an ophthalmologist and surgeon. We are getting married in NYC in spring 2014 and are happily living in New York City."

Jeffrey Feder '07E, '08E and the newly engaged **Matthew Kondub** trekked to Merion, Pa., for a weekend to visit **Eric Bondarsky** and Nina Cohen '09 Barnard in a partial reunion of EC Suite 806. The missing member of that suite, Daniel Friedman '08E, had already danced with the rest of them at Matt's engagement party the week before. Eric shares, "Matt's intended, Dani Pasternak, got a glimpse of what she is getting herself into upon joining what can only be described as the 806 family. At the time of writing this Class Note, they all eagerly await Matt and Dani's union in early August."

Shafaq Khan and **Usman Arain** tied the knot on March 30 in Morristown, N.J., with their dynamic, beloved Columbia friends in attendance.

Tamara Lee also shares some big news: "I don't frequently have big life updates, but I suppose when I do, I have a lot! On May 19 I graduated from the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, I got married to my medical school classmate, Andrew Lenis, on May 25, and we traveled to Thailand for our honeymoon. I'm literally still in the clouds, writing to you from a plane, as we are moving to Los Angeles to begin our residencies at UCLA, Andrew in urology and I in ophthalmology. I will pursue my clinical residency combined with Ph.D. research at the Jules Stein Eye Institute's EyeSTAR program. Looking forward to reconnecting with Columbia alumni in L.A.!"

08

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Congratulations on our five-year reunion! Seeing 271 of our classmates on campus and throughout New York during Alumni Reunion Weekend was spectacular. The first note I am sharing is from a fellow Columbian who graduated 40 years before our class, Buzz Zucker '68. He wanted to send a personal message after meeting so many of us during the weekend.

He writes, "Some of my most enjoyable moments on Saturday were spent talking with some of your classmates, both at the wine tasting before dinner and outside after dinner. So please tell them that Buzz from '68 enjoyed meeting them all and will be looking for them in five years to make sure that they are still having fun."

Alisa Brem is an assistant development manager at Grosvenor's Washington, D.C., office, where she works on urban infill mixed-use real estate developments. She also opened a bar, Thomas Foolery, in July in Dupont Circle; some other CC '08ers have invested. She says, "If you're in D.C. come visit the bar at 2029 P St. N.W. It's a place to be a big kid with tons of games, local kid food like grilled cheese and PB & J (from The Big Cheese), homemade ice cream sandwiches



Maxime Glass '09 and Evan Harnik were married on July 7, 2012, at the Harvard Club in NYC. Top row, left to right: Monica Ierardo '09 Barnard, Katy Marcus '07 Barnard, Dan Gendler '09, Valerie Smith '09, Matt Rowen '09, Arielle Siboni '09 Barnard, Maya Pariser '08 Barnard and Jenny Cohen '06 Barnard; middle row, left to right: Sydney Newman '11 Barnard, Jennifer Zigler '08 Barnard, the groom, the bride, Nicole Scalmandre '10E, Lindsay Braverman '05 Barnard; Bianca Livi '05 Barnard and Shana Attas '09 Barnard; and front row, left to right: Sophie Scharf '07 Barnard and Ava Friedmann '09 Barnard.

PHOTO: SARAH LEHBERGER FOR AFTERGLOW PHOTOS

(from Captain Cookie & the Milkman), soup (from Soupergirl), and quiche and pies (from Whisked!). All of the drinks (beer and alcohol) can be made into floats and you can play Plinko to determine the price of your Smirnoff Ice. It's a really fun and silly place (thomasfoolerydc.com)."

Anushka Shenoy is starting medical school at the Oregon Health & Science University in Portland, Ore. She says, "Anyone in Portland should look me up!"

Since graduating, **Melody Quintana** has lived in San Francisco and been a content strategist at Facebook. She writes, "It's been nothing short of amazing to be part of the company through such a critical growth phase, and I've truly fallen in love with the Bay Area. That said, I've recently decided to move on to my next adventure, which will bring me back to NYC for grad school. I'll start an M.F.A. in interaction design at the School of Visual Arts this fall. I'm excited to explore a new creative discipline and connect with fellow Columbians back in the city!"

Rachel Belt recently finished the coursework for a master's in humanitarian health program management and returned to Haiti to research the issue of child trafficking with the Haitian government's child protection agency.

Rachel Sales (née Trager) says, "For the past year, I've been living in Tel Aviv, Israel, with my husband, Ben. I'm the director of recruitment for the Israel Experience, the leading educational tour company here. If anyone has friends, siblings or cousins who are interested in participating in Taglit-Birthright Israel this winter, feel free to get in touch with me at rachmsales@gmail.com. I'd be happy to help them get to the country for free!"

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014

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09

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More than four years have passed since we all proudly marched across the stage on Class Day. The Class of 2009 has now spent more time as Columbia College alumni than as Columbia College students. That is a scary thought, as for many of us the memories of Columbia are still so fresh.

Well, it is time to make some new memories with your old college buddies! Please mark your calendars for our five-year reunion, Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1, 2014. If you would like to help with planning for the weekend, please touch base with one of the Alumni Office contacts listed above. Reunion is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and relive some of the excitement of the college experience (even if it is just for a couple days). Until then, we will have to make do with catching up the good, old-fashioned way: reading these Class Notes and logging into Facebook.

Jack Cantrell became engaged to Constanza Jacobs '10 Barnard on March 14. Jack is pursuing a J.D./M.B.A. at Virginia while Constanza works for The Kinetix Group in New York City.

Josh Mathew was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant in the Army in February. He graduated from the Army's training course for infantry officers and entered Ranger School soon afterward. This fall, he heads to his first assignment with the 2nd Infantry Division in South Korea.

Josh hopes that his fellow alumni will appreciate reading that when a very senior ranking officer spoke to his infantry officer class about the possibility of pursuing graduate degrees through the Army, he highlighted the opportunity to study at Columbia and commented: "I mean, how cool would it be to earn a degree from Columbia University?" There is lots of love for alma mater on the Hudson from that fort on the Chattahoochee.

In August, **Dan Trepanier** moved from the East Village in New York City to Los Angeles, both for a change in lifestyle and to continue growing his brand TSBmen.com (the men's style blog that Dan started at Columbia and that he now manages full-time with a team of four). Comparing West Coast and East Coast men's fashion will make for an interesting dialogue, and he hopes to get more closely involved with Hollywood styling as well as spend a large amount of time on the beach.

After working for three years in government and politics in Washington, D.C., **MaryAlice Parks** decided to make a career shift and, this year, completed a

master's of science in broadcast journalism from the Journalism School. MaryAlice heads back to D.C. this fall for a fellowship with ABC News. You can view her work at maryaliceparks.com.

Yitian Liu '13 P&S in June began his work as a general surgery resident at the Cleveland Clinic. Yitian is excited to finally have his first real job, apartment and car. He welcomes all classmates to visit him in Ohio!

Yitian is not the only member of the Class of 2009 to recently finish medical school. **Phil Mitchell** graduated from Emory University School of Medicine in the spring and began a residency in orthopedic surgery at Vanderbilt in July.

As some of our classmates complete their graduate studies, others are returning to school. **Siobhan Gilbert,** for example, recently left her job as a research associate at the New York City affiliate of PBS. She received a full-ride scholarship to pursue an M.F.A. in playwriting at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and is beginning graduate studies this fall.

10

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Hi 2010, thanks for submitting your exciting updates. Let's kick off our Fall notes with a couple of wedding announcements:

Milan Cox (née Rodriguez) writes, "I am excited to share that I was married on May 18 to Jordan Cox, the cutest, smartest boy in the world. My bridesmaids included Stephanie (Baker) Summerhays '09, who was my freshman and sophomore year roommate (she entered with us but graduated a year early), and Lauren Ford '09. Happily living the newlywed life while starting my fourth year as a fundraiser at the Smithsonian!"

Katherine Vance writes, "I got married on April 6. It was great to see my Columbia suitemates, **Jessica Guo** (who was my maid of honor), **Lisa Kawamoto**, **Claire Zukowski** and **Angela Lu.** We missed **Lien Hoang,** the sixth member of our EC townhouse, who lives in Vietnam. It was great to get together again, and the Houston weather cooperated for a lovely picnic reception at Hermann Park. My husband, Robert, and I are working on Ph.D.s in math at Rice in Houston. My area of research is knot theory. I taught my first class (Calculus II) last semester, which was fun and exhausting and prevented us from going on a honeymoon right away, so Robert and I were planning a camping honeymoon in southern Utah for July."

Congratulations are in order for a few of our classmates who are either starting or recently graduated from school.

Gabriella Ripoll writes, "Graduated from NYU School of Law! In the spring I was again in the law school musical, *NYU Law Revue*, this year joined by 1L (now 2L) **Shana Knizhnik** — small world! Look for me in *NYU Law Revue*'s 'Staff Editor' video! When I pass the bar I'm settling at a general practice firm, Arrufat Gracia, in Times Square in NYC. Exciting times."

Deysy Ordonez-Arreola '13 GSAS earned a master's in East Asian languages and cultures. She is part of the faculty at Hunter College, CUNY, and hopes to pursue a Ph.D. in history in the near future.

In September, **Jon Hollander** will be starting an M.B.A. program at the Stanford Graduate School of Business.

Ben Freeman graduated from Harvard Law in May and is thrilled to be returning to New York this fall.

After working in investment banking, **Valerie Sapozhnikova** decided to make a career transition. She begins at Harvard Law this fall and is excited about going back to school.

Charlesa Stoglin relocated to Memphis from Phoenix in December 2012. She will be a 1L at the University of Mempis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law this fall.

Hannah Salomons writes, "Hello, classmates! This January, I packed my car with all my belongings from the small NYC apartment where I had been living with best friend **Danielle Adelfio '10E** and drove down to live in the Florida Keys! I am an educator at the Dolphin Research Center, where I spend my days playing with dolphins, teaching school groups and visitors of all ages about how amazing dolphins are and writing curriculum for the new College of Marine Mammal Professions, which will run its first academic year in 2013. It has been a huge life change and adjustment from NYC to the Keys, and I certainly miss my friends and family in the tri-state area, but I have aspired to work at the Dolphin Research Center since I came to summer camp here as a 12-year-old, and it feels great to have finally achieved that dream. I welcome visiting Columbians who would like to come meet the dolphins and learn about our research.

"I visited Columbia for Commencement 2013 because my little sister graduated from Barnard, and I experienced great nostalgia being on campus and watching as the new graduates danced and cheered to Jay-Z's *Empire State of Mind*."

Hieu Pham shares, "It's odd to fill out my current city as Chicago. Yup! I've made the move to the Windy City on a four-year contract with *Saveur* magazine as its Chicago correspondent.

"OK, not quite — I hope you weren't fooled because 1) such a title doesn't exist, and 2) only in my dreams would that happen. But I am in Chicago to pursue even more higher education and rack up the debt. So if you find yourself in town, please hit me up. My spacious apartment in Little Italy should be able to squeeze in another person."

Lekha Menon is excited to move back to New York to start a new role with Health Leads. She also looks forward to reliving East Campus 1010 days with **Maria Alzuru, Nausheen Hakim, Sami Ritter** and **Cristina Ciprian-Matthews!**

And last but not least, our quarterly installment from **Chris Yim:**

Chris Yim '10 is founding a company called UClass with two former roommates from Columbia — Zak Ringelstein '08 and Varun Gulati '10E.

"A new season means new city, new job and a new start. Yup, I did it. I made the migration westward to find greener pastures in the Bay Area. That's not entirely true: I came west to pursue an opportunity and support a mission that I am entirely passionate about.

"I am founding a company called UClass with two of my former roommates from Columbia — Zak Ringelstein '08 and **Varun Gulati '10E** — and we are working to connect students and teachers around the world to improve the quality of education. We just wrapped up an accelerator here in San Francisco called Hub Ventures and are continuing to build our company with all that we've learned. I am living the dream here, working with best friends, being part of a social cause that I believe in and rediscovering the importance of adaptability. What's the lesson learned here? Sometimes, you just gotta quit your job, jump in a car, chase that one thing you care about, swallow your pride, dig into your savings, be kind and humble, find free food where you can and thank God for the opportunity.

"In other news, my son, Jackson Carman, has impressed me with his development. He is an explorer like Columbus (my namesake), and he speaks weird baby languages. Not to be cliché, but it's like witnessing a miracle every day. Unfortunately, I had to leave him behind with my folks, so he'll speak better Korean than I do. Silver linings, people.

"A few last tidbits that I must confess: I have found that a great way to make extra money is to 'airbnb' your room out and sleep in the living room. I am beginning to think Tiger won't win that major. And your life isn't less meaningful just because you don't get Instagram likes on your photo; I remind myself of this often."

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I hope everyone enjoyed the summer. Hard to believe that fall is nearly here! Unfortunately I have no updates, so I'll just use this space to ask for your contribution for next time. Whether you have successes and life changes to share, or just want to say hello, it's important for us to stay connected. You can write me at the email or postal address at the top of the column, or submit updates via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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As of this writing, I will have returned to UC Berkeley for my second year of law school. It was lovely catching up with so many classmates while I worked in New York this past summer.

Congratulations are in order for **Ali Hard** and Michael Weng '11E, who got engaged in January and are planning a summer wedding in Connecticut for next year! Ali is also a new board member of the Columbia Club of Boston and is enjoying connecting with alumni in the Boston area.

Derek Turner reports from Michigan, "Detroit has been earning unsavory superlatives lately, but the Motown Columbia contingent isn't! **Todd Nelson** and I work and live in the heart of the 'Arsenal of Democracy,' doing our part to create jobs here. I recently started

a new gig at a tech training institute and co-working space called Grand Circus. So for all those Lions wanting to learn coding or start a business, consider Detroit. Curious? Come visit!"

Dominique Mann started a job as a producer at MSNBC, where she books guests for segments of various shows. She writes, "On-air guests include political figures, experts, entertainers, activists and everyday people. Working at the White House and for the President's reelection campaign definitely prepared me well for this job, and I love working in the newsroom. Now that I'm in New York again, I have been able to reconnect with friends and other alumni. They have really been a support system, and I look forward to staying in touch with everyone."

Elizabeth Kipp-Giusti spent a dynamic and intense 10 months serving as a corps member in the Americorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps). Based out of McClellan AFB in Sacramento, Calif., her service included projects in Salt Lake City serving the Utah Food Bank; in Moonachie, N.J., on disaster relief after Hurricane Sandy; and in Portland, Ore., working in a youth development center. The 10 months became a heuristic aid, pushing Elizabeth to learn more about the social and environmental topography of the country as well as to consider multiple career paths in the nonprofit sector. Certifications gained during that same time frame included training in First Aid, Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, Red Cross and First Responder. Though back in NYC, Elizabeth says she has gained a world of experience on the West Coast and is grateful for the adventure!

At the beginning of June, **Evan Miller** took a trip to sunny California with **Ross Morand** and **Anthony Potter.** They ran the 2013 Rock 'n' Roll San Diego Marathon with Team in Training, raising more than $10,000 for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Evan and Anthony ran the half-marathon while Ross ran the full marathon, finishing his first marathon in 3 hours and 23 minutes. Way to go, guys! The three enjoyed an extra day off from working in NYC to go jet skiing in the San Diego marina on the Monday following the race.

Gillian Rhodes sent this update from Cambodia: "I recently bought a motorcycle to get around Phnom Penh. Clearly things are getting crazy here. I work for a major television network and am on a mission to up the quality in backup dancing. Then it's just raising funds to launch a contemporary dance company in the next year! And improving my Khmer …"

Jenn Leyva, who lives and works in Yongin in Bundang-gu, South Korea, is putting her chemistry degree to good use as a kindergarten teacher by day and a revolutionary fat activist and writer by evening and weekends.

For **Kelicia Hollis,** summer brought the opportunity to work abroad as an intern at the Shanghai Jiao Tong University in Shanghai, China. "Working as the international programs intern at the UM-SJTU Joint Institute lined up perfectly after completing my first year in my M.A. program, and doing independent research while abroad has taught me a lot. Let the blessings continue!"

As a member of the Puerto Rico national field hockey team, **Leticia Freaney** has been living in San Juan for the past year. She played in her first international field hockey tournament in Panama in late June and celebrated her 23rd birthday shortly before the tournament. At the time, she was a server at Chili's and practicing with her team. Looking ahead, Leticia hopes to use her visual arts major to have her first solo gallery show before the end of fall. Last but certainly not least, she is the owner of a kitten since January.

Madeleine Jensen is excited to be moving to the West Coast this fall to start a Ph.D. in molecular and cell biology at UC Berkeley as a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow. She looks forward to joining friends and all of the Columbia alumni in the Bay Area.

Malcolm Culleton, who writes that he has been "leading a tempestuous life of fortune and adventure," sent in a creative and detailed account of adventures since graduation:

"Unaware of what the future would hold, Malcolm walked out from the gates of alma mater in search of the untamed frontier across the Hudson. He walked for many days and spent many lonesome nights in the forest, using his spacious sky-blue graduation robes as a tent. Eventually, he found himself in New Orleans, where he got a part-time job painting houses and quickly worked his way up the social ladder. Before long, he received an offer of a high-paying job at a prestigious Fortune 500 company, and was on the verge of signing on, when he befriended an old, one-eyed trumpet player on the banks of the Mississippi River. The man overheard Malcolm playing guitar and said he was impressed by his picking style. They jammed for a bit, earning tens of dollars worth of tourist change, until the man told Malcolm that he was connected to some important people in the music business who were arranging a tour of Japan. He told Malcolm that the ship for the East would be leaving that night, and asked him to come along and play guitar with the group.

"It was only after boarding the ship that Malcolm realized that he had been hoodwinked by a band of pirates, and that the story about the Japanese music tour was really just a front for the group's smuggling operation. He found himself conscripted by the pirates to help traffic Cuban contraband through the Mississippi Delta. As he generally disapproves of the Cuban trade embargo, Malcolm was more than happy to work with the group for a while, but when part of his left ear got snipped off in a spontaneous knife fight he decided that a life of crime was not for him. He jumped ship in Veracruz, Mexico, and headed for the hills.

"Malcolm is currently living at an undisclosed location in the Sierra Madre mountains with three loyal pet wolves he has nurtured from puppyhood. He thanks Columbia College for many fond memories, but most of all for supplying such vivid material for his strong and still active imagination."

Paul Hsiao, Eric Tang '12E and **Eric Chung '12E** welcome **Alex Harstrick** back to New York. Paul writes that he is excited for upcoming adventures with the old EC RA crew, **Sonal Bothra, Allie Davitt** and **Chuck Roberts.** Paul also looks forward to seeing **Emily Ahn** and **Lauren Kwok '12E** around the city!

Upon finishing her first year at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, **Wen Wen** worked for the summer as an architect at a design office in Beirut, Lebanon. She was involved in the Alumni Representative Committee while in Cambridge, interviewed several applicants to Columbia College and attended the new admits meet-and-greet in April.

Yin Yin Lu writes, "A few months ago, I left the corporate publishing world to work at 10 Speed Labs, a boutique media agency based in midtown Manhattan. We create websites and apps (and even print packaging) for a wide range of clients in an equally wide range of industries. No two projects, much less days, have been the same!

"I've also been developing a video series for my Lexicography Society titled 'What's Your Word?' It features students and professionals of different backgrounds speaking about words that resonate with them in either a positive or negative way. It will be launched on YouTube sometime in the next few months — if you are in the NYC area and have a word you'd like to share, please drop a line to lexisoc@gmail.com.

"Another update on the lexicography front — my review of Michael Adams' *From Elvish to Klingon: Exploring Invented Languages* was published in *Dictionaries: Journal of the Dictionary Society of North America (Volume 33).* It's my first official academic article!"

Lots of love from both new and familiar contributors this time around — keep the updates coming, 2012!

Madeleine Jensen '12 is starting a Ph.D. in molecular and cell biology at UC Berkeley as a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow.

Nettra Pan recently completed the Columbia-Sciences Po five-year B.A./M.A. program in Paris, graduating with a master's specialized in the management of public and hybrid institutions with concentrations in emerging economies and East and Southeast Asia (where she grew up). Congratulations, Nettra! On June 11, she wrote, "Yesterday evening, I went to a great event with University Professor Joseph Stiglitz, organized by the Columbia Club of Paris, whose president, Maxime Riché '05E, has become a friend. Professor Stiglitz's insights were quite motivating in the sense that our generation has a lot to tackle! I'm excited to see how businesses can meet the growing economic, social and environmental demands and am looking for jobs at forward-thinking companies in business strategy.

"In Europe, I had the chance to get to know inspiring leaders in the fast-growing tech and social enterprise scene through my role as Paris ambassador of the Sandbox network. Our applications for the 2013 class are open: sandboxnetwork.com/apply.

"Oh, and it's true what they say about Paris — a very romantic city! I fell in love."

13 Tala Akhavan
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I hope everyone enjoyed a restful and celebratory summer. Since graduation in May, members of the Class of 2013 have been busy

adventuring across the country and beginning new academic and professional careers.

Yoonjin Ha has been rehearsing at the Baryshnikov Arts Center in NYC for a developing project involving opera, dance and theatre. For this project Yoonjin is proudly working with established figures in the industry, including director Paul Warner, composer Du Yun and choreographer Stephen Petronio. This fall, she will start at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts to pursue an M.F.A. in acting with the Class of 2016.

In early June, Kevin Zhai '12 hiked Mount Si in Seattle with Daphne Chen '14 and Christine Currie '12E.

Ryan Cho recently entered active duty in the Army and will attend the Quartermaster School in Fort Lee, Va., for four months. After completion of his studies, he will take on an assignment as a detachment commander of an Aerial Delivery Unit in Nebraska.

Isabel Losada fostered her passion for art history this past summer as an intern at The Frick Collection in New York City. This fall she will attend the Courtauld Institute of Art in London to pursue a master's in art history.

Emmanuel Hiram Arnaud spent the summer in an internship at the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials. He plans to begin his legal education in September at Cornell Law.

Iman Nanji kicked off her postgraduate adventures with a road trip across the country, visiting several national parks, monuments and fellow alumni across 11 states. Before moving back to her hometown of Los Angeles in early September, Iman spent the summer in New York City, where she trained for her new job at JPMorgan Chase. At the firm's L.A. office she plans to join the Private Banking Division as an asset management analyst on the ultra-high net worth team.

Natassia Miller recently completed a road trip down the California coast, which she highly recommends as a "breathtaking and unforgettable" experience. She looked forward to joining Sanford C. Bernstein in July as an institutional equity research sales associate. She was to be working alongside Tania Harsono '11, her close friend and NSOP orientation leader.

Aaron Kohn arrived in Johannesburg in early June. There, he will be the director of a new museum in South Africa, the Museum of African Design. The museum is part of a large regeneration project in Johannesburg's downtown area that uses the arts to stimulate cultural unity and progress.

Environmental science major **Natalia Martinez** spent the summer in Denali National Park Preserve, Alaska, where she works for Aramark. Her work there is focused on projects involving energy management, environmental management system planning, waste reduction and renewable feasibility assessments. In her spare time, when she isn't taking care of her recently adopted sled dog, she enjoys hiking and playing softball.

Yoonjin Ha '13 has been rehearsing at the Baryshnikov Arts Center in NYC for a developing project involving opera, dance and theatre.

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Alumni Corner

(Continued from page 104)

I felt like a foreigner while discovering and understanding how everything worked. In addition, surprisingly, the English language became an obstacle again, as I felt that my proficiency was not enough for me to keep pace with the academics. However, I learned to use support services, such as the Writing Center, which helped me improve my weaknesses. At the same time, I felt welcomed by the Columbia community because of its diversity, and I no longer had to be "careful" with my accent. Ultimately I grew academically, overcame obstacles and made the Dean's List.

I would have never imagined that all these experiences would uniquely prepare me for my role, beginning last November, as a conduit between the East Hampton School District and its growing number of Spanish-speaking families. Based on the New York State Report Card for 2011–12, the percentage of Hispanic or Latino students in the district is 41, while the largest racial/ethnic group is white, at 51. I was hired to improve communication and thus facilitate broader access to district resources that are underused due to the language barrier and to create the opportunity for the meaningful participation of parents in promoting the academic growth of their children.

To accomplish this, I organized parent meetings throughout the district to help them understand the school system. For example, at the high school level there was a meeting that explained the graduation requirements, Regents exams, report cards and more. Parents also had a chance to meet their kids' guidance counselors. In addition, workshops were created to teach parents how to use online tools to check their kids' grades, attendance and so on. At the elementary level, parents were informed about the importance of reading and learned about common community resources such as library programs and town recreational activities.

Parent participation was an obstacle at the beginning, when only 18 showed up for a meeting I had called of all Spanish-speaking families of high school students. However, these 18 parents helped me better understand their needs and concerns, which helped me to plan meetings and programs for the rest of the academic year. For the second meeting I called all Spanish-speaking parents ahead of time to inform them about the subjects that were going to be explained; I also advertised the meeting with flyers at markets and frequently visited places around the community, and I contacted the single Spanish radio station in the area. The number of parents who attended meetings grew from there, reaching as many as 170, so that we ultimately had to break down meetings by grade level to allow for more meaningful participation.

Based on my own experiences as a high school and college student, and my mother's experience, I have been able to identify and tackle specific concerns and obstacles that many Spanish-speaking families face in our school district. For example, I encountered one recently arrived student who didn't know whether to take a bilingual social studies class in which she might more easily obtain a high grade or take a regular social studies class taught in English that might be more challenging and put her grade at risk. However, when she learned about the available support such as extra help, she went ahead with the all-English class. For her and for many other recently arrived students, it was all about being aware of the available support services and using them productively.

The response from Spanish-speaking families in East Hampton has been outstanding. I have learned that many families had been seeking to become more involved in their children's education but were limited because of the language barrier and cultural differences. It brings to mind my mother's experience when she tried to become involved in the school to provide us with the necessary support. I remember she attended PTA meetings and such but was discouraged due to language and cultural differences. Parents like her who seek involvement or are intimidated by the school are now learning about available resources and can comfortably become engaged and take a more active role in the school and their children's education.

I certainly learned a lot in my first year, and throughout this past summer I worked with administrators and school staff to reflect on last year and to develop a road map for this year. We will continue trying to increase communication with parents through meetings and to encourage their participation. With the support of school personnel we have planned school events, such as parent-teacher conferences and college information sessions, to accommodate Spanish-speaking families. I am optimistic that our school community will continue to provide our students with more opportunities to excel regardless of their background.



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Deadline for Winter 2013–14 issue: Friday, October 25, 2013

Answers to Quiz on Inside Back Cover

1. Doug Jackson '76 in 1975 and John Witkowski '84 in 1982.
2. Lou Kusserow '49 returned a kickoff 100 yards vs. Dartmouth in 1948.
3. Johnathan Reese '02 rushed for 3,321 yards in 1998–2001 and John Witkowski '84 passed for 7,849 yards in 1981–83.
4. William V. Campbell '62, '64 TC and Robert K. Kraft '63.
5. 93 yards, John Witkowski '84 to Mark Millam '86 vs. Bucknell in 1983.
6. 93 yards by three players: John Nork '49, '53 P&S vs. Lafayette in 1946; Jimmy Henderson '85 vs. Yale in 1984; and J.R. Clearfield '92 vs. Bucknell in 1989.
7. Paul Governali '43.
8. Lou Little, who coached the Lions for 236 games from 1930–56. Little also had more wins (110) and losses (116) than any other Columbia football coach.
9. In 2005, when Prosper Nwokocha '06 returned a kickoff 94 yards for a TD vs. Fordham.
10. Michael Quarshie '05 in 2005 and Andrew Kennedy '11 in 2011.

Letters

(Continued from page 5)

used in refining uranium 235. At Columbia, my father worked alongside Enrico Fermi, Eugene F. Wigner, Edward Teller and Leo Sziliard, all major figures in the Manhattan Project.

Everyone at the time knew that the Germans were working on a similar project and that someone was going to build a bomb. Later in his life, my father said he was glad it was the United States, and not Germany or Russia, who did it first. It was for our protection, he said.

However, my father had mixed feelings about the bomb. He was glad the war would soon be over as a result of its use and that it saved many American and Japanese lives that would have been lost in the planned American land invasion of Japan. Yet he was petrified by the reports of the first use of the bomb delivered on Hiroshima. He didn't know the United States was going to explode it. He thought we were two years away from completing the project.

After the war, my father worked on the design and construction of the Hanford, Wash., atomic plant. He was convinced atomic energy could be developed safely and for good and peaceful purposes.

My father contributed to classified sections of the National Nuclear Energy Series and to program reports for Nuclear Reactor and Process Plant Projects exceeding $250 million, and he was the author of 22 patents and applications, many of them classified.

My father's early employment included the engineering, construction and supervision of the subways for the NYC Board of Transportation. And, with the American District Telegraph Co., he developed, designed, constructed and implemented the engineering of detection and signaling systems using electronic, thermoelectric, pyrometric, photoelectric and pneumatic sensing elements. He made a demonstration model of a nuclear (radium) powered thermoelectric battery generator. And my father invented the first ionization smoke and fire detector using a radioactive source resembling the ones in common use today.

Armen Donelian '72
HUDSON, N.Y.

Corrections

The Summer 2013 issue contained several errors. Bookshelf had an incorrect listing for *You're My Dawg, Dog: A Lexicon of Dog Terms for People*; although written by Donald Friedman, the book was not written by Donald Friedman '49. Also, in the listing for Ira Katznelson '66's book *Fear Itself: The New Deal and the Origins of Our Time*, Walter Lippmann was misidentified; he was, in fact, an author, a founding editor of *The New Republic* and an influential columnist. Finally, in the feature "Scholars in the Storm," profiling Brian O'Connell '89, the Department of Education committed $200 million to repair schools throughout NYC, not only Scholars' Academy.

CCT regrets the errors.

ALUMNI CORNER

Building Bridges Between Cultures In East Hampton Schools

BY ANA NÚÑEZ '11

Ana Núñez '11 *was featured in a June 10 article in* The New York Times *discussing her role as a liaison with the East Hampton (N.Y.) School District, working to facilitate communication between the district's administrators and teachers and Spanish-speaking families. Núñez herself attended schools in East Hampton after moving to the United States from Ecuador as a fifth-grader. Here, she reflects on her own transition, the challenges of being an international student and how her experiences learning to navigate American schools are helping her now.*

I was 3 when my mother left my sister and me in Ecuador, in search of better work and opportunities in the United States. We were left with grandparents, aunts and uncles, who played the role of diligent parents. My mother was physically absent for six long years; however, during that time she was financially present, providing us with the best education and fulfilling our needs. Little did I know back then that everything we had was thanks to 20-hour shifts she was working in a cosmetics factory in New Jersey.



Ana Núñez '11 chats with Teresita Solis, who is from Costa Rica and has a son at East Hampton H.S.
PHOTO: GORDON M. GRANT/*THE NEW YORK TIMES*/REDUX

In 1999 my mother visited Ecuador for the first time since being away. I remember I was very excited to welcome her in the airport, although the visit turned out not as pleasant as I imagined, as she was essentially a stranger to me. Two months later, my sister and I moved to East Hampton, N.Y., to live with her. The first two years were miserable. I was thrown into an unknown environment where the only person I knew was my sister, who was going through her teenage years; I was in the fifth grade. Classes were taught in English and the majority of the students were American. There were about eight other kids who were learning English, including one who had recently arrived to the country like me. In addition, classes were taught differently than in Ecuador, with students switching classrooms for different classes.

The routine surrounding my schoolwork also changed drastically. In Ecuador, elementary school education is very demanding, and my aunt, who was my school guardian, would not allow me to obtain grades below a 19 (90s in the U.S.). I would get home, switch out of my uniform, have lunch and do homework. My aunt would check it all and if there were no mistakes I was allowed to play with kids from my neighborhood. To prepare for exams, I would study after finishing my homework and my aunt would verbally test me on the material — then send me back to study more if I made mistakes. Sometimes this process took hours and caused many tears. In addition, my aunt would test me in the morning before school while doing my hair or having breakfast. This was tedious and time-consuming, but it prepared me well.

In East Hampton, my routine was very different. I would arrive home by bus, have something to eat and hang around. It was up to me whether I did my schoolwork properly and on time. At first, my mother tried to check on my homework and mirror my aunt's support, but it was hard for her to be on top of it because of the language barrier, the difference in the educational systems and time constraints due to her work. That is when I replaced my aunt's academic regimen with my own initiative. I struggled at the beginning but soon became aware of resources at the school such as homework club and extra help, resources not common in Ecuador. After a while, I realized I was most comfortable when I was in school. I learned the language in two years and was able to enroll in advanced classes for the rest of my education.

By the time I got to high school things were smoother. I was lucky to be surrounded by classmates who were on the college track and advised by knowledgeable parents. The entire college process was foreign to me: In Ecuador, typically you take an entrance exam for the college you want to attend (there are limited choices) and then if you pass the test, you enroll — that's all. There are no such things as extracurricular activities, community service, SATs and so on. Here, I became aware of what I should be doing and how to prepare thanks to conversations in the classroom. I mirrored my classmates' trajectories, building up a resume and registering for all necessary tests for a competitive school. My mother's role in my education was limited to reviewing my report card and signing checks for standardized tests.

Columbia was the second college I visited, and the minute I got there, I knew I wanted to attend. My mother was hesitant because of the cost, but I wanted to risk it. Luckily Columbia provided me with a generous financial aid package, and I also received a Gates Millennium Scholarship. In addition, I held small jobs throughout the school year and during the summer.

Columbia and the college system were overwhelming at first.

(Continued on page 102)

Homecoming Football Quiz

To get in shape for the Homecoming game against Ivy League preseason favorite Penn on Saturday, October 19, try your hand at this quiz about Lions football through the years. *(Answers on page 103.)*

1.
Name the two Lions who have won Ivy League Player of the Year honors.

2.
What was the longest play in Columbia football history?

3.
Who are Columbia's all-time leaders in career rushing yardage and passing yardage?

4.
Two Lions were listed among the NCAA's 100 Most Influential Student Athletes, as chosen in 2006 in conjunction with the NCAA's centennial. Name them.

5.
How long was the longest passing play in Columbia football history?

6.
How long was the longest running play in Columbia football history?

7.
This Lion won the Maxwell Award as college football's national Player of the Year in 1942. Name him.

8.
Here's an easy one: Who was the longest-serving coach in Columbia football history?

9.
When was the last time a Columbia player returned a kickoff for a touchdown?

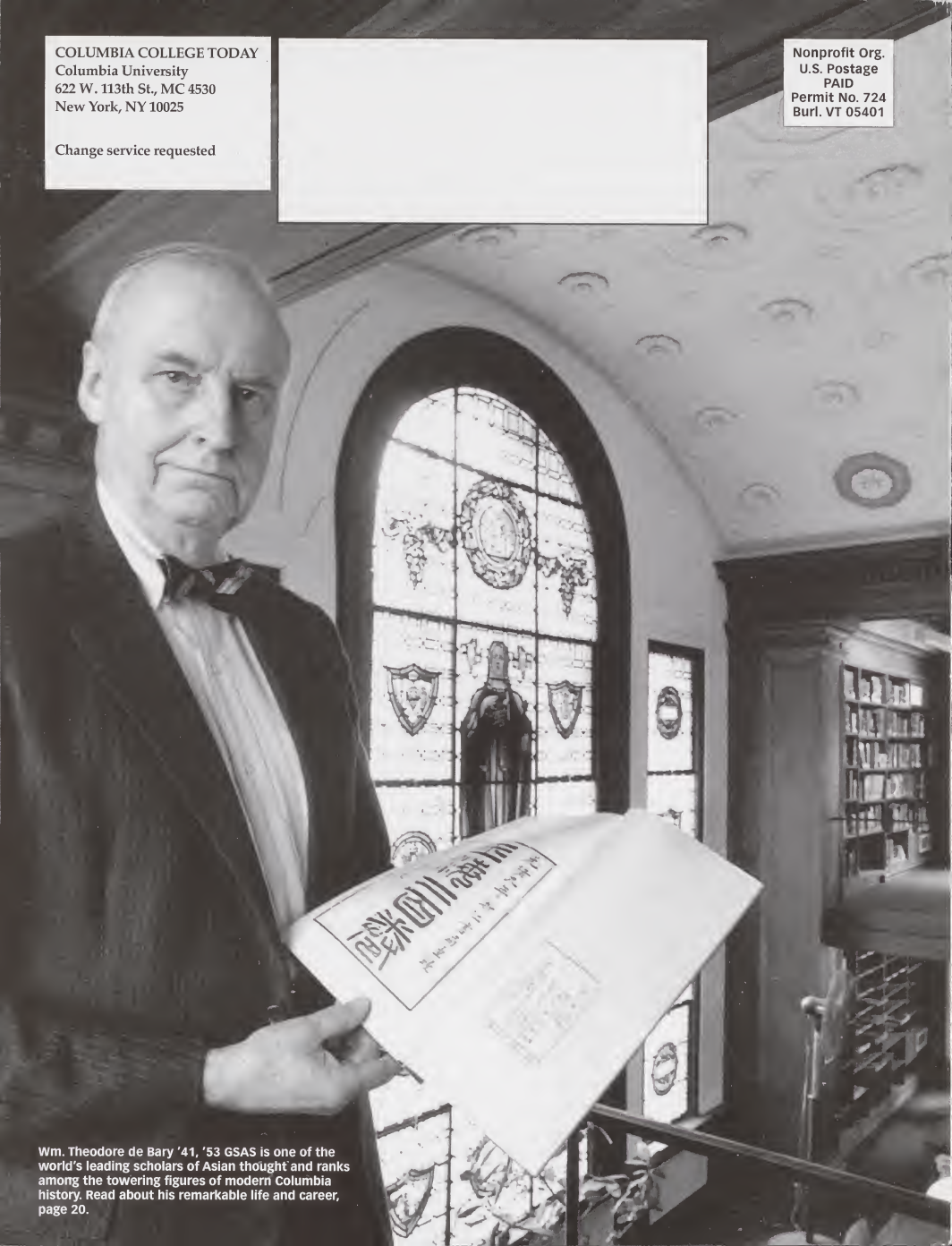
10.
Two Lions won the National Football Foundation/College Hall of Fame Scholar-Athlete award within the past decade. Name them.

Running back Marcorus Garrett '14 earned All-Ivy League First Team honors a year ago and returns to lead the Lions in 2013.
PHOTO: COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

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Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, '53 GSAS is one of the world's leading scholars of Asian thought and ranks among the towering figures of modern Columbia history. Read about his remarkable life and career, page 20.

Columbia College TODAY

Winter 2013–14

GLOBAL COLUMBIA



A Look at How Columbia College Helps Students Have Global Experiences



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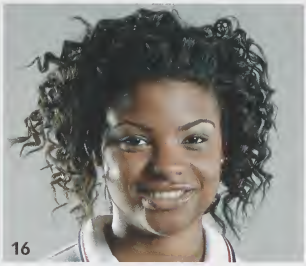
College alumni often trace their success living and working internationally to their liberal arts education, the diverse Columbia student body and the unique nature of New York City.

By Ted Rabinowitz '87

COVER PHOTOS: CHAR SMULLYAN; GLOBE ICON: ILLUSTRATION BY R.J. MATSON '85



Carl Haber '80, '85 GSAS



Nzingha Prescod '15



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Watch Nzingha Prescod '15 fence

Hear Pete "Dr. Banjo" Wernick '66 perform

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Exploring Global Opportunities

When I met with our students studying abroad while traveling in Beijing, Paris, London, Hong Kong and Shanghai earlier this year, I asked them about their global experiences. What were they learning in the classroom? In their city? What surprised them? Did they feel prepared? How was their experience abroad complementing their experience on our campus? How did they see it as enhancing their future? How did it influence their career plans? What could we do as a college to maximize the value of their global experience?

Their answers confirmed that these were questions they were thinking about as well. Our students were exploring the global opportunities we offer to immerse themselves in another culture, to gain proficiency in another language, to learn how to be effective in an unfamiliar setting and to build contacts in other countries. They wanted to challenge themselves, to test different skills and to expand their personal capabilities. They were also thinking about how their experiences related to their studies and to their personal, professional and academic lives.



PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

Our goal as a college is to prepare students to be involved and effective global citizens — and engaging people, places and ideas throughout the world is a big part of that. In part we propel that engagement right on campus. There are 729 international students in the College who come from 83 different countries; these students bring the world right here to Columbia College, so that a variety of perspectives, experiences and opinions are encountered in our classrooms and residence halls. The resulting interactions prepare all of our students for the lives they will have after graduation, wherever they go and in whatever field they choose to pursue.

But direct, firsthand international experiences, whether academic or co-curricular, are also key for our students. This is why I often say that "College Walk doesn't extend from Amsterdam to Broadway; it extends around the world." Alumni often tell me that having the chance to work or study overseas opened doors of understanding in a way that nothing else could have. Global experiences, they say, prove that students are self-sufficient, ambitious risk-takers who will challenge themselves and contribute to the world. They help students develop a clear recognition of the breadth of philosophical, political and social structures that underlie different cultures; provide the ability to interact effectively with people of all ages and across all cultures; and increase awareness and understanding of their own cultures. They also enhance language and communications skills. In this respect, global education is an extension of the College's liberal arts curriculum. Like Contemporary Civilization, Lit Hum, Art Hum and Music Hum, and of course, the Global Core, an experience living or working abroad develops critical thinking, the ability to make good decisions and the self-confidence that defines every Columbia College graduate.

The College provides hundreds of international opportunities for students, from a year in Berlin studying abroad with Columbia faculty to a summer internship with a micro-lending company in Mumbai. Students can study abroad during the year, intern or take classes abroad during the summer or do academic research abroad. We offer 16 Columbia-sponsored study abroad programs, 110 opportunities to do internships in eight locations overseas and we are developing new programs and enhancing existing programs each year. We have also kicked off a Presidential Global Fellowship program, thanks to the support of President Lee C. Bollinger, which provides funding to first-years to study abroad during the summer on a Columbia program at any location where there is a Columbia Global Center. We want to provide every student who wants to do so the opportunity to study, work or do research abroad, and to offer opportunities for global experiences early in students' undergraduate careers. Early global experiences are brought back to campus and become part of students' lives for the remainder of their time in the College. Global experiences also influence students' interactions with one another, so the value of these early global experiences extends to the entire student body. In effect, the experiences of individual students are leveraged for the benefit of all students.

While I was in Shanghai, one student asked me how I would judge whether a Columbia global experience was successful. Well, an international experience in one location must prepare a student to succeed in any place in the world. So, to answer her question I suggested the following measure of success: a student who has participated in one of our Columbia College global experiences is later sent blindfolded to a city somewhere in the world without preparation or knowing where she is going, and in two weeks has found a place to live, made a friend and gotten a job. Obviously, I was not being literal in the details here, or prescriptive in the time period, but I phrased the answer this way to focus on the key aspect of a global experience: enabling students to succeed personally and professionally no matter where life takes them. Global experiences, along with our broadly diverse and international student body, give our students understanding, life skills, self-sufficiency and competencies to adapt and thrive. International experiences, whether in Amman, Kyoto, Moscow, Santiago, Venice, or right here in Morningside Heights, are key to a Columbia College education and we are committed to expanding and enhancing these opportunities.

James J. Valentini

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Letters to the Editor

Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, '53 GSAS

I was so pleased to read the article about Professor de Bary [Fall 2013], as I enjoyed those courses in Asian studies that he and Donald Keene ['42, '49 GSAS] taught. Their courses had a subtle but important impact on my outlook on life, for which I am most grateful.

How lucky we were to have had such fine professors as Ted de Bary; Jacques Barzun ['27, '32 GSAS]; Moses Hadas ['30 GSAS]; Richard Hofstadter ['42 GSAS]; and many others. Certainly our lives were enriched by their efforts.

Thor Kuniholm '56
PHILADELPHIA

My compliments to Jamie Katz ['72, '80 Business] for his great article on Professor de Bary. It certainly represents an enormous amount of research and writing. As usual, *CCT* is full of highly interesting reading, for which I thank you.

Sol Fisher '36, '38L
PLEASANT HILL, CALIF.

Three or more decades ago, while I was still engaged in alumni activities on an intensive scale, I met Jamie Katz ['72, '80 Business], who at the time was the editor of *CCT*. I admired his work, told him so,



Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, '53 GSAS introduced generations of Columbians to Asian studies.
PHOTO: ARNOLD BROWNE '78



and we became friends on several levels; quite by chance, he turned up as a neighbor in the Fire Island village of Ocean Beach, where my wife and I were summer residents for close to 40 years.

So when I saw his name as the author of a serious article about Ted de Bary ['41, '53 GSAS], a scholar and teacher whom I have long admired, I read it with care and delight. Ted has never needed humanizing — he has always been completely human both as scholar and teacher — but Jamie's comprehensive recount of his life and work and virtues was both vivid and moving, and all of it needed saying.

Reading it was more than a pleasure, for it brought my thoughts back not only to Ted (whom it was a pleasure to see and listen to at lunch in October to celebrate his newest book, *The Great Civilized Conversation*), but to Jamie as well, who himself worked miracles at *CCT* in his day.

Kudos to the subject, and to his celebrant!

Joe Russell '49, '52L
NEW YORK CITY

I was delighted to see that Ted de Bary ['41, '53 GSAS] is still going strong. It was a great privilege to take the yearlong seminar in Asian classics that he and Ainslee Embree ['60 GSAS] taught. I guess my enthusiasm showed, because two years later when I was about to do some teaching at Columbia while working on my Ph.D., I was given the opportunity to help out in the course. With some ambivalence I settled on Western Humanities, but I hope

Core Curriculum Knows No Borders

Daniel Gordis '81 had no idea when he was reading Homer's *Iliad* and Vergil's *Aeneid* in Literature Humanities, or the works of Plato and Aristotle in Contemporary Civilization, that 35 years later he would be exporting those classics to a startup college nearly 6,000 miles from Morningside Heights.

"We're bringing Columbia's Core Curriculum to Shalem College in Jerusalem," says Gordis, an author, commentator and scholar who immigrated to Israel in 1998. Gordis is s.v.p., Koret Distinguished Fellow and chair of the Core Curriculum at Shalem (the name means "complete" in Hebrew) College, which opened its doors to its first class of 50 students in October.



Students from Shalem College attend a seminar at Tel Azekah, an archeological site not far from Jerusalem where plaques describe the nearby mythical battle between David and Goliath.
PHOTO: MAOZ VAYSTOOCH

Shalem College is the first school in Israel based on the American model of liberal arts education; as such, Gordis says it will fulfill "a long unmet but very profound need in Israeli society." Other colleges there follow the European model where students choose a career path upon entering college and take courses designed to prepare them to work in that field. "There is no place anywhere in the Jewish state where there's a core curriculum that everyone takes regardless of his or her focus of study," says Gordis. "It's a way of creating not just an amalgam of courses but a four-year conversation. We are creating a community of learners."

Gordis was among a group of faculty and administrators from Shalem College that spent time in September meeting in New York with faculty and administrators from Columbia's Core Curriculum in preparation for the new school's opening. "It was quite an experience to be back in Hamilton Hall so many years later," he notes.

Gordis, who earned a master's and rabbinic ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary and a doctorate in social ethics at Southern Cal, was the founding dean of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies at the University of Judaism, the first rabbinical college on the West Coast. That caught the attention of leaders of the Shalem Center, an Israeli think tank created in 1994, who were exploring the launch of a liberal arts college. "I embraced it and became involved," Gordis says.

Shalem College is located at Kiryat Moriah in Jerusalem, on a campus rented from the Jewish Agency and near numerous other educational institutions. It offers a B.A. and is accredited by Israel's Council for Higher Education. The first cohort of students will choose between two major tracks of study: Jewish thought and philosophy or Middle Eastern and Islamic studies; founders plan to add other majors as the school grows. Classes are taught in Hebrew but all students are expected to be fluent in English and students in the Middle Eastern and Islamic studies track also must know Arabic. All students in the first class are Jewish, although Gordis and other school officials say a concerted effort was made to recruit Arab students and the hope is that Arabs will enroll in future years. All students are required to do community service, helping nearby Jewish and Arab residents.

For Gordis, helping to shape the humanities curriculum of Shalem College around "small classes with real conversations" and "a reverence for texts" is the latest step in a journey that found its course at the College. In a column published in *The Jerusalem Post* on October 18, Gordis wrote, "Columbia imbued many of us with a sense that ideas matter, that profound thinkers ought to be one's lifelong companions; we hope that at Kiryat Moriah, Shalem's students will emerge with similar commitments."

For more information about Shalem College, go to shalem.ac.il.

Alex Sachare

***CCT* welcomes letters from readers about articles in the magazine but cannot print or personally respond to all letters received. Letters express the views of the writers and not *CCT*, the College or the University. Please keep letters to 250 words or fewer. All letters are subject to editing for space, clarity and *CCT* style. Please direct letters for publication "TO THE EDITOR" via mail or online: college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus.**

Professor de Bary will be glad to hear that when it came time for me to teach some of the same texts we'd read (like the *Tao te Ching*, *Monkey* or Gandhi's *Autobiography*) in "great books" courses I was able to draw on what I'd learned from him and his colleagues.

I recall two other acts of his kindness: the year after I graduated from CC, an essay I'd done for Professor de Bary's course appeared in *King's Crown Essays*, my first published work but a total surprise — I assume he recommended it. And sometime around 1969 he attempted to talk sensibly with me about the Columbia "troubles," but I'm afraid my anti-war passion was too high to listen with an attentive ear.

Gary Shapiro '63, '70 GSAS
RICHMOND, VA.

I took Oriental Civilizations with Theodore de Bary ['41, '53 GSAS], Donald Keene ['42,

'49 GSAS] and Ainslee Embree ['60 GSAS] in 1961, the first year, as I recall, that there were alternatives for meeting the second-year CC requirement. I'm sure there were easier ways than facing off with three such heavyweights, but what did I, at 19, know? You quote Keene as saying de Bary can be at times "very forbidding." My recollection is that he was merely no-nonsense. I have a vivid memory, however, of his pausing once in his description of a period of political unrest in China, perhaps spotting a cliché lying in wait and formulating a way around it. From the back of the room, someone called out, someone with far more chutzpah than I, to offer the suggestion that perhaps the region in question had been "beset by civil strife." De Bary roared with laughter, and so could the rest of us.

Jerry Oster '64
Chapel Hill, N.C.

Remembering Karl-Ludwig Selig

About 30 Columbia grads met at 9:30 a.m. on October 19 at the Columbia Rowing Boathouses at Baker Athletics Complex before the Homecoming game, right on the shore of the Harlem River across from the big "C" on the cliff in Riverdale. The gathering was a memorial service for Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig. Some knew the professor very well through many years and some just from a class or the campus. Each, of course, had his own story to tell — some rather poignant, serious or funny, as anyone who knew the character of the professor might imagine — remembering how much he cherished his friends and the College.



Karl-Ludwig Selig
PHOTO: LORI GRINKER/CONTACT PRESS IMAGES

We saw the boat named for the professor some years ago, as he was a great fan of crew, having been a varsity swimmer at Ohio State after coming to America from Germany in 1938 (with a Nazi exit visa, which was displayed quite informally among other documents and photos). At 10 a.m. we gathered on the dock jutting out into the river. After a brief introduction by Ted Allegaert '85, Dennis Klainberg '84 played *Taps* as the professor's ashes were emptied into the Harlem River. We recited the *Kaddish* (Jewish memorial prayer) in the Sephardic style of the 15th-century Spanish Jews, which I guessed was fitting for a professor who spoke Spanish and loved *Don Quixote*.

We walked up to the balcony of the new 1929 Boathouse on the second floor, looked at some photos and personal artifacts while Brahms' *German Requiem* was played (*Selig sind die da lied tragen … Selig sind die toten …* Blessed are they that mourn … Blessed are the dead …) We lingered and talked and drank champagne in his honor till noon. This was his will, his wish — no formal funeral, no official University-sanctioned event, just his students and friends who will always remember him, and a very special Homecoming.

Dr. Joel Halio '74
Great Neck, N.Y.

Dr. George Yancopoulos '80, '86 GSAS, '87 P&S

I enjoyed the article "Vision Quest" [Summer 2013]. I thank the College for posting the 2013 John Jay Awards Dinner speeches on YouTube (youtube.com/watch?v=F257025iJmU), as my medical practice would not let me get away to attend the dinner. I recall Dr. George Yancopoulos ['80, '86 GSAS, '87 P&S] as a fellow Columbia College student heading to freshman football after we'd both listened to a lecture by our biochemistry professor and the current chief scientific officer of Sequenom, Dr. Charles Cantor '63. Once outside the lecture hall, for lightweight football, Bill Campbell '62, '64 TC, now chair of Columbia's Board of Trustees, engaged students for a different lesson. Of course, the recent John Jay Awards Dinner reunited not only George and Bill but also reminds what other excitements and advancements our Columbia will help foster among students, faculty and coaches.

Thank you for the excellent journalism. It keeps many of us connected to Columbia past, present and future.

Dr. Dennis T. Costakos '80
La Crosse, Wis.

Football, Basketball and CU Branding

Like it or not, performance in the major sports is partially how the public "brands" our academic institutions. Even though Columbia has ranked near the top of the nation's universities for years, the Columbia brand has become synonymous with losing because of the performance of its football and basketball teams. (This branding of Columbia was true even before the 44-game football losing streak during the mid-'80s.) Of all the Ivy League schools, Columbia has gone the longest without winning a football or basketball championship; 52 years in football and 45 years in basketball. Every other Ivy League university has won multiple titles since the inception of the league except Columbia.

For a number of reasons, I believe continued participation in these sports and the Ivy League is important. However, our teams should be competitive and win at least occasional championships. We are a university that strives for excellence and it should be so in all of our endeavors.

Involvement in athletics either as a performer or a spectator helps both groups bond with the University. Attending Columbia football and basketball games is a social event, a chance to spend time with classmates and other Columbia friends while watching the games. The bonding of athletes with the College is evident in their continued participation in activities as alumni and the high percentage of them who donate financially. Athletes also increase campus diversity.

If we are to change the perception of our brand, we must admit its truth before deciding how to address it. There needs to be an open debate among the administration, faculty, student body and alumni to bring about the necessary transformation. The time to start is now, with another disastrous football season under our belts.

Robert A. Levine '58
Westport, Conn.

Alexander Hamilton Award Dinners

Reading that Joel I. Klein '67 will receive the next Alexander Hamilton Medal [Around the Quads, Fall 2013] brought back memories of the 1949 Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner. I had graduated in June and entered the Business School that fall. Through Joe Coffee '41, then a College development officer, I had gotten a job as a part-time assistant secretary of the Columbia College

(Continued on page 95)

AROUND THE QUADS

Sound Savior Carl Haber '80 Wins MacArthur Fellowship

By Alex Sachare '71



Carl Haber '80, '85 GSAS says it took only one hour to restore the recording of Alexander Graham Bell's voice but 10 years to develop the process that enabled him to do so.

PHOTO: COURTESY JOHN D. AND CATHERINE T. MacARTHUR FOUNDATION

Carl Haber '80, '85 GSAS, an experimental physicist at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in Berkeley, Calif., was among 13 men and 11 women named 2013 MacArthur Fellows in September. Known informally as "genius grants," the fellowships from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation come with a stipend of $625,000 paid across five years.

Haber was cited for developing technologies for the preservation and recapturing of deteriorating sound recordings, technologies that arose from his work on instruments for use with high-energy colliders. Recordings made on wax cylinders, lacquer discs and other materials have been retrieved by Haber and his colleagues, who use a technique that transforms visual data into a digital sound file.

"About 10 years ago, I happened to hear a report on NPR about the Library of Congress and their large collections of historic sound recordings, which described them in some cases as being delicate, damaged, deteriorating and so forth," Haber explained in a video released by the MacArthur Foundation. "I intrinsically appreciated when I heard this that this was an important thing — it's part of our culture and part of our history — and I had an idea that you might be able to use some of the same very detailed techniques that we were using to restore the sound without ever touching them."

As anyone who ever owned a vinyl record knows, every time you play one, the contact of the stylus or needle wears down the grooves. Add in the scratches that come with use and general wear and tear, and gradually the sound quality of the record deteriorates. The same holds true with other materials used for earlier recordings, including lacquer, wax and aluminum.

"Our approach is in part based on photography," said Haber. "We take a picture of a phonograph record. This photograph is taken with great magnifica-

tion; we're talking about gigapixels. There are techniques which are called image processing, which can take an image and mathematically digest the information in it and can extract in detail the motion of the groove and calculate what sound would be played if you indeed played it with a needle. If the record is broken, scratched, damaged in some way, we can still apply this process. It's all done as a mathematical algorithm on a digital computer.

"We actually got to hear, last year, Alexander Graham Bell's voice for the first time. You can hear the man speaking — that was amazing."

The method also has been used to successfully play an 1860 phonautogram, the oldest known sound recording of a human voice, as well as a 100-year-old recording of the voice of author Jack London.

The end product of Haber's efforts is digital audio, which can be played on most electronic devices. "This isn't some exotic laboratory sound that can only be heard in these labs," noted Carlene Stephens, a curator at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History. "We can hear these voices that have been lost anywhere in the world, and that's thrilling. A door has been opened, and on the other side are people, places, things and ideas we didn't have the imagination to know existed."

Haber has been affiliated since 1986 with the Berkeley Lab, where he is a senior scientist in the Physics Division. Since beginning research on the preservation and restoration of recorded sound in 2002, he has worked with archivists at the Library of Congress, the Thomas Edison National Historic Park, the Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology and the Smithsonian Institution, among others.

Winning a MacArthur Fellowship left Haber speechless. "If you're in research, in academia, people know about the MacArthur Fellowship," he said. "But it's so unlikely that anyone would ever get a MacArthur award, I just didn't know what to say. The whole thing is a bit of a shock."

Haber said the grant would allow him to continue his research and to travel globally to restore recordings from remote parts of the world.

"I continue to be excited by any scientific or technical challenge where we can learn things and find elegant solutions to problems that matter to people, be they scientists, historians, ethnographers, anthropologists. It's a privilege and a pleasure to do that."

For more about Haber and his work, go to macfound.org/fellows/892.

Madigan Named Arts and Sciences EVP

David Madigan, who joined Columbia's faculty in 2007 and the following year became chair of the Department of Statistics, was named e.v.p. and dean of the faculty of Arts and Sciences in September. Madigan, who had held that role on an interim basis since March, succeeds Nicholas Dirks, who left to become chancellor of UC Berkeley.



PHOTO: MARTYN GALLINA-JONES

The Faculty of Arts and Sciences consists of 29 departments in the social sciences, humanities and natural sciences; five schools: Columbia College, the School of General Studies, the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, the School of the Arts and the School of Continuing Education; as well as numerous institutes and centers.

Under a recent restructuring, Arts and Sciences is led by a three-person executive committee consisting of Madigan, College Dean James J. Valentini and GSAS Dean Carlos J. Alonso, a structure Madigan endorses. "This is a very complex organization and having an explicit leadership team that comprises representatives from the core arts and sciences is great, and it works extremely well," he told *Spectator*.

Asked about the relationship between Arts and Sciences and the College, which had been contentious but improved under the leadership of Dirks and former College dean Austin E. Quigley, Madigan told *Spec*, "First and foremost, we attract amazing students and we have amazing faculty, and with that comes a huge responsibility. We have a huge responsibility to prepare them well and to give them an education that's relevant to today's global, interconnected world. In the past, there's been some tension between Columbia College and Arts and Sciences and these tensions are utter nonsense. We are a group of faculty and students, and so we either all win or we all lose. We are absolutely in this together."

Madigan mentioned improving faculty diversity as one of his priorities. "We have a wonderfully diverse student body. We have an appallingly un-diverse faculty, and this is not an easy problem to solve," he said. "From the trustees down, there is a strong institutional commitment to try to help with this. This is a major issue for us right now."

New Core Course To Replace Frontiers

Dean James J. Valentini has appointed a 17-member committee of faculty, students and alumni to develop a Core course that will replace Frontiers of Science, the one-semester course taken by first-years that was introduced to the Core on an experimental basis in 2004 and has been reviewed and revamped periodically since then. The Educational Planning and Policy Committee conducted the most recent review of Frontiers in 2012–13. "The charter of that committee was to see if Frontiers of Science should be continued in its current form or if we should do something else, and [the committee] said we should do something else," Valentini said.

In announcing the committee in a September 27 entry on his blog, Valentini mentioned "a need to integrate the course with the rest of the Core, connecting it in particular to Contemporary Civilization, because science is most certainly a central part of 'contemporary civilization.' We also need to ask what the best route is to engage students as active and enthusiastic scholars pursuing the knowledge and understanding that we seek to impart in this course. How do we engage students in this Core science course the way we do in Literature Humanities and Contemporary Civilization?"

The committee, which has been meeting since September and is expected to complete its work by the end of the 2013–14 academic year, is co-chaired by Peter deMenocal, professor of earth and environmental sciences and chair of the Department of Environmental Sciences, and Philip Kitcher, the John Dewey Professor of Philosophy.

To read Valentini's blog entry and see the list of committee members, go to college.columbia.edu/about/dean/blog.

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Five Minutes with ... Edward Mendelson

Edward Mendelson Ph.D., the Lionel Trilling Professor in the Humanities, is a professor of English and comparative literature specializing in 19th-century British literature and 20th-century British and American literature. He earned a B.A. from Rochester and a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins, and has taught at Columbia since 1981. He is the literary executor of the Estate of W.H. Auden, and his books include *Early Auden* (1981), *Later Auden* (1999) and *The Things That Matter: What Seven Classic Novels Have to Say About the Stages of Life* (2006).

Tell me about your background and how you came to be a professor.
I grew up in New York and went to Stuyvesant H.S. I thought I was going to be a biologist and follow in the family tradition of doctors, and then I discovered I enjoyed thinking about books more than I enjoyed thinking in the lab. One thing that affected me a lot in college happened at a dinner with a professor at the end of a course, when someone asked him, "Well, you taught the standard canonical list of authors — but who do *you* like most?" He said, "I don't like any of those canonical ones the most; I like so-and-so more." And I thought, it's possible actually to have a personal point of view rather than to accept what was told. That gave me a sense of personal engagement with the material that's stuck with me ever since.

What drew you to your field of study?
In graduate school I started reading W.H. Auden's poems and I discovered, here's someone who knew more about reality than I do. That was striking because an awful lot of literature thinks about human beings as myths. But if I see someone as the embodiment of beauty or wisdom or something like that, it gets in the way of perceiving him or her as an individual. Virginia Woolf, Auden, all of the writers I admire most, are tempted by myths because they make great poems and great stories — but then they draw back and say, but I realize that the myth gets in the way of seeing who the real person is.

What do you teach?
Generally Lit Hum — I love teaching the Core — and an undergraduate seminar in Yeats, Eliot and Auden, which has become a class in how to read poems. People often come into class thinking of poetry as an instrument for generating moods. Someone will say, "This poem reminds me of my grandmother"; and another person says, "No, it reminds me of a spring day." So in this seminar, without having planned to, we'll spend two hours on a 12-line poem by Yeats and seeing how you can read it as having a discourse, as having something to say where you can make sense of the words.

Can you describe your approach to teaching Lit Hum?
I try to get students excited by the books. I like to focus on the text as a way of thinking about things that are also happening now. For example, in *The Eumenides*, the old divinities and the new divinities are in a battle and finally Athena establishes a law court to settle the question because that's the only way to deal with these tribal disputes. And after the law court rules that neither side is guilty, the old divinities say we don't like this decision; we're going to send a plague. Do you recognize that in today's headlines? "We don't like the laws so we're going to destroy everything." So I don't care whether years later they can remember the details of the books, but if they can think about reality more clearly because they've read these books, that's the point.

What are your current projects?
I wrote a batch of reviews for *The New York Review of Books* about American writers in the 20th century, and I realized they were all about how these writers thought about politics and the inner life, and the conflict between those. So my job right now is to turn those essays into a book. Then I want to start a book that comes out of thinking for many years about the kinds of books I teach in Lit Hum, about what it means to be an individual person in the great epics, from *The Odyssey* up through *Moby Dick*.

What's your favorite place to be?
I can't answer a question like that. It suggests human beings are in a steady state rather than people with a history. I like to be one place at 9 in the morning and one place at 10 in the morning. One reason I admire Woolf is that she, more than any other novelist, recognizes how people can think completely different things from one minute to the next. At the beginning of the dinner party [in *To the Lighthouse*], Mrs. Ramsay looks at her husband and wonders, how could I have ever cared anything for him? An hour later, she's thinking he is the most wonderful man she had ever met.

What about a talent you would like to have?
I'm not going to answer that either.

I guess it would depend on when I ask you?
That's right. I'm sorry; I realize that you're asking a standard question for this kind of interview, but it goes against the grain to describe oneself as a simple cartoon figure.

Is it a variation on that question to ask, if you weren't a professor, what would you be?
Yes. A life is … everyone has too many choices to talk about life in this either-or way. I can't do it. I'm always amazed at people who can.

Interview: Alexis Tonti '11 Arts
Photo: Lynn Saville



Alumni Leaders Weekend

The ninth annual Columbia Alumni Leaders Weekend took place October 11–12. This year's focus was multi-dimensional partnerships and how alumni and alumni organizations can collaborate in new ways with one another and with the University. The weekend opened on Friday night at Lincoln Center with two Columbia Alumni Association (CAA) panels, "The 21st Century City: Rethinking Partnerships" and "Experimenting with Our Urban Future." Attendees then enjoyed a reception in The Atrium in Rose Hall. Saturday's events, all held on campus, opened with breakfast roundtables on various aspects of volunteer involvement (below, left). The remainder of the day featured panels and discussion groups, a luncheon and an alumni book fair. The weekend closed with the CAA Alumni Medalists Gala, at which the 10 alumni honored at Commencement with an Alumni Medal — including College medalists Stephen L. Buchman '59, '62L; Dr. Marvin M. Lipman '49, '54 P&S; and Ira B. Malin '75 — were feted at a dinner in Low Rotunda. Speaking on Saturday were (below, middle), from left to right, Huei Ong '09, '09E; Mozelle Thompson '76, '79 SIPA, '81L; and Matthew Roskot '04 at the "Maximizing Social Media for Volunteers" panel, and (right) Dean James J. Valentini on the state of the College.

PHOTOS LEFT TO RIGHT: MICHAEL DAMES, BRUCE GILBERT, BRUCE GILBERT







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ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

■ Nine College alumni were listed in *Business Insider*'s "SA [Silicon Alley] 100 2013: The Coolest People in New York Tech," published on October 24. Alphabetically, they are **Mike Brown Jr. '06, Jared Hecht '09, Doug Imbruce '05, Peter Koechley '03, Dan Loeb '83, Adam Pritzker '08, Robert Reffkin '00, Nitasha Tiku '01** and **Michael Wolf '84**. For more, go to businessinsider.com/silicon-alley-100-2013-2013-10.

■ **Nico Muhly '03**'s opera *Two Boys* had its American premiere at the Metropolitan Opera in NYC on October 21. At 32, Muhly is the youngest person the Met has ever commissioned to write an opera. *Two Boys*, based on real events that occurred 10 years ago in Manchester, England, tells the story of a 16-year-old boy who nearly killed a younger boy after being encouraged to do so by mysterious people he encountered in an Internet chat room. In its review, *The New York Times* called it "a dark, ambitious and innovative work" and said that "Nico Muhly has a voice, a Muhly sound, and it comes through consistently in his opera."

Giving Day 2013: We Did It Again!

Columbia College raised the most funds among the University's schools and programs on the second annual Columbia Giving Day, held on October 23 worldwide. The College secured the top spot last year as well. By the numbers, the results are:

- More than 1,500 Columbia College alumni, students, parents and friends donated in excess of $2.4 million for the College.
- More than $7.8 million was raised overall from 9,759 gifts in 50 states and 53 countries.
- By securing the top spot on the leaderboards, the College earned an additional $75,398 in matching funds for the Columbia College Fund.
- The College was awarded an extra $15,000 for having high alumni involvement.
- Young Alumni participation between 8 and 9 p.m. won the College another $5,000.

For stats and more information, go to givingday.columbia.edu.

■ **John S. "Rip" Ripandelli '40** has been recognized as a knight of the Legion of Honor, France's highest prize, for his military service during WWII. Ripandelli was one of six Floridians honored by François Delattre, the Ambassador of the French Republic to the United States, at a ceremony at the Old Capitol in Tallahassee, Fla., on April 25. The Legion of Honor was created by Napoleon in 1802 to acknowledge services rendered to France by persons of exceptional merit.

■ **Susanna Wolff '10** has been named editor-in-chief of the comedy website CollegeHumor.com, overseeing and directing all editorial content and maintaining the overall tone of the site. She began her career at CollegeHumor in 2007 as an editorial intern, joined the staff upon graduation as articles editor and rose through the ranks to her most recent position as managing editor. Through the years, Wolff has written more than 500 articles for CollegeHumor, including "Facebook News Feed History of the World," in which she translated the entire history of the world into the style of Facebook news feeds.

■ Director **Bill Condon '76**'s latest film, *The Fifth Estate*, premiered on October 18. It's the story of Julian Assange, the founder and editor-in-chief of the controversial, news-leaking website WikiLeaks. Condon won an Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay for his 1998 film *Gods and Monsters* and was nominated in the same category four years later for *Chicago*. He also wrote the screenplay for and directed *Dreamgirls* (2006) and directed *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 1* (2011) and *Part 2* (2012).



Deborah Waxman '89

■ **Deborah Waxman '89,** a rabbi and historian of American Judaism, became president of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College on January 1. Waxman, who had been v.p. for governance, will oversee both the seminary in Wyncote, Pa., and the congregational union, an umbrella for approximately 100 Reconstructionist congregations. She is believed to be the first woman to head a Jewish congregational union and the first woman rabbi to lead a Jewish seminary.



John S. "Rip" Ripandelli '40

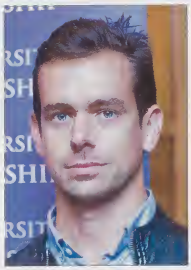
■ **Amanda Peet '94** has added playwrighting to her list of credits. After working steadily as a film, television and stage actress for nearly two decades, Peet made her professional playwrighting debut with *The Commons of Pensacola*, a Manhattan Theatre Club production that opened at New York's City Center on November 21. The play stars Blythe Danner and, in a role Peet originally conceived for herself, Sarah Jessica Parker. Peet explained in an interview with *The New York Times* that she chose not to keep the role because she thought Parker "would probably succeed in the role more fully than I would. But I also felt it'd be better for me as an actress, and better for the play, to try to concentrate on one thing. I was scared I wouldn't have perspective if I was both performing and then making changes to the script, especially my first time out. I thought I might get immersed and lost." The play focuses on a mother-daughter relationship after the mother is forced to leave her luxurious New York life because of her husband's Wall Street scandal.

Hire Columbians

Who better to hire Columbia students than Columbia alumni? That's the idea behind "Hire Columbians," a campaign by the Center for Career Education to get Columbia alumni to hire students for internships or full-time positions. For more information, go to careered ucation.columbia.edu/hirecolumbians.

CAMPUS NEWS

■ **ATWITTER:** Jack Dorsey, chair of Twitter and CEO of Square, offered advice and inspiration to an audience of entrepreneurs and would-be entrepreneurs in Roone Arledge Auditorium on September 16. The event was organized by the Center for Career Education and the Columbia Entrepreneurs Organization and opened Startup Weekend, presented by the Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs. Dorsey noted that much of Twitter's popularity was due not to its creators but to its users, pointing to #, @ and the retweet as examples. "All these systems weren't created or invented by us but by people using the system," he said. Asked about balancing schoolwork and entrepreneurship, Dorsey, a dropout from three universities, said there is no right answer. "Everyone learns differently. Some people thrive in a university atmosphere and some people don't. I was learning more outside of my university than inside it. It's the type of person that you are."



Jack Dorsey

■ **WE'RE NO. 4 (AGAIN):** Columbia was ranked fourth for the fourth consecutive year in *U.S. News & World Report*'s annual rankings of national universities, announced in September. Princeton headed the list and Harvard, which had been tied with Princeton atop the 2013 rankings, dropped to second, with Yale retaining the third spot. Chicago, which had been tied with Columbia for fourth a year ago, dropped into a tie for fifth with Stanford. Duke, MIT and Penn tied for seventh and CalTech and Dartmouth tied for 10th. Schools were ranked on 16 factors, including graduation and retention rates, class sizes and alumni giving. Columbia's ranking is based on data from three undergraduate schools: the College, Engineering and General Studies.

■ **ARTS & SCIENCES:** Six Columbia professors have been elected members of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences: John Stratton Howley, professor of religion at Barnard; Donald C. Hood, the James F. Bender Professor in Psychology and professor of ophthalmic science; John D. Huber, professor of political science and departmental chair; Hervé Jacquet, professor emeritus of mathematics; Duong H. Phong, professor of mathematics; and Barbara G. Tversky, professor of psychology and education at Teachers College. They are among 198 new members of the academy, which was founded in 1790 and includes more than 250 Nobel laureates, who were inducted on October 12.

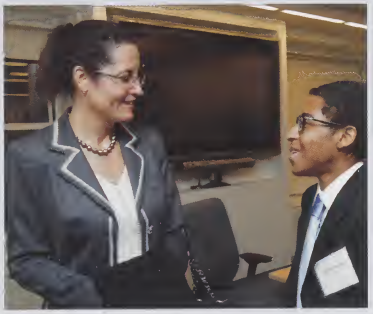
■ **TEACH:** Columbia ranked sixth among medium-sized schools sending graduating seniors to Teach For America's 2013 teaching corps, with 35 of its newest alumni joining the nonprofit— up eight places from a year ago. Columbia has ranked among the top 20 schools for its size for the past six years, and 358 alumni have signed on with TFA in its 23-year history. TFA, which recruits students from all disciplines who are willing to commit two years to teach in high-need schools, had 11,000 members teaching in 48 urban and rural regions across the country this fall.

■ **ENDOWED:** Columbia's endowment portfolio produced a return of 11.5 percent for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, raising the total value of the endowment at that point to $8.2 billion. Columbia's endowment returns over the past five and 10 years are the highest among peer endowments larger than $1 billion, according to the University. "A key part of our success in maintaining Columbia's solid financial position has been the consistent success of our endowment investment managers year after year," said University President Lee C. Bollinger. "Over the past decade, our investment performance has consistently outpaced both the market and our peers, helping Columbia compete academically with other great universities that have far larger endowments."

■ **GRANTED:** The interdisciplinary team of Virginia Cornish '91, the Helena Rubinstein Professor of Chemistry, Lars Dietrich, assistant professor of biological sciences, and Kenneth Shepard, professor of electrical engineering and biomedical engineering, won a three-year, $1 million grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation to further their research in combining biological components and solid-state electronics.

■ **LIBRARIES:** The Rare Book & Manuscript Library (RBML) has acquired two collections, one from the foundation of Russian composer Sergei Prokofiev and the other from *Mad Magazine* illustrator Al Jaffee. The Serge Prokofiev Foundation chose Columbia as the repository for archival material from Prokofiev's 18 years in the West, 1919–36, while Jaffee, 92, and his wife, Joyce, donated the archives from his 70-year career, including 58 years with *Mad*. In addition, RBML has received a $175,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to support the publication of volumes 4 through 6 of the *Selected Papers of John Jay*, a scholarly edition of the papers of the first chief justice of the United States, a member of the Class of 1764.

In addition, the Libraries' Center for Human Rights Documentation & Research has acquired the papers of Amnesty International activist Joshua Rubenstein '71. Rubenstein worked for Amnesty International 1975–2012 and was its Northeast regional director for three decades.



Lisa Carnoy '89, a University trustee and head of global capital markets for Bank of America Merrill Lynch, spoke with students about her profession at the fall semester's first Columbia College Dinner & Discussion program, sponsored by the Center for Career Education, on September 17.
PHOTO: BRUCE GILBERT

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Ben Hirschfeld '16 Gives the Gift of Clean Light

By Nathalie Alonso '08

Ben Hirschfeld '16's impetus to start Lit! Solar (litsolar.org), a program that has distributed sun-powered lanterns to more than 10,000 people in the developing world, emerged from a simple question: How do schoolchildren who lack electricity study after dark?

Hirschfeld was a high school freshman when he posed this question to his neighbor, Pam Allyn '88 TC, founder and executive director of the international literacy nonprofit LitWorld (litworld.org). Allyn explained that in places like Kibera, Kenya, where LitWorld works and where Lit! Solar's main program now operates, many people lack electricity and rely on kerosene lamps for light. Not only does kerosene pose a fire hazard, Hirschfeld learned, but it is also expensive, provides only dim light and, because of its smoke, can cause respiratory diseases, including lung cancer. Having suffered from respiratory ailments growing up, he was spurred to action by the findings. "Because of my own struggle with learning while not feeling well because of respiratory issues, I could empathize and understand how hard it must be," says Hirschfeld, who after further research determined that solar lanterns charged by daylight were a solution.

Under the auspices of LitWorld, Lit! Solar began as a pilot program in 2009. Hirschfeld set up a booth at a farmers market in his hometown of Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y., and raised funds to send lanterns to 20 students at the Red Rose School in Kibera, the biggest slum in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi, through LitWorld's local partner organizations. After a second round of distribution, he sent questionnaires to assess the effectiveness of the solar lanterns. "It turned out that the kids were studying a lot more, that they felt more confident in school and that [the families] were saving a lot of money on kerosene," says Hirschfeld.

It was in July 2011, however, when he met people like Doreen Acheing during a three-week stint as a teaching assistant at the Red Rose School, that he truly realized his project's potential to improve a family's health and finances. Acheing, a mother of two, reported her children's chronic pneumonia disappeared when the family abandoned its kerosene lamp in favor of a solar lantern. The $8 lantern, says Hirschfeld, also enabled Acheing to work after sundown, which allowed her to expand her business of sewing school uniforms and raise money to purchase a second lantern for relatives.

"Being there and putting a human face on all of these issues really brought it all home for me — both the huge difference we could make in people's lives with this tiny piece of technology and the humbleness that comes from knowing how many people are still dealing with the same problems," says Hirschfeld.

In Kibera, Lit! Solar promotes the lanterns on the radio, at parent meetings at schools, and at festivals. Recipients do not have any upfront costs for the lanterns; instead, they are asked to donate, over time, part of the money they save on kerosene to help provide lanterns for others. "The families get all the health benefits, studying benefits and also economic benefits, because the parents can work at night," says Hirschfeld.

Lit! Solar has also donated solar lanterns to participants of LitWorld's LitClubs, which focus on empowering and educating girls in places like the Philippines and Haiti, and has expanded its scope to include Fiji and a Native American reservation in Arizona.

During the academic year, Hirschfeld oversees the overall operation of Lit! Solar and pursues opportunities to extend the program's reach, whether it means networking or giving his input on a contract agreement with a new partner organization in Kenya. (He also performs with the Columbia University Kingsmen.) Allyn praises Hirschfeld's ability to break down an ambitious project into manageable tasks. "He has great ideas, has created excellent protocols for the work and carries things through," she says. "He thinks big but also understands that each of the successes comes from step-by-step work, which needs to be meticulously done."



Lit! Solar founder Ben Hirschfeld '16 with lantern recipient Doreen Acheing in her home in Kibera in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi.
PHOTO: JEFF OKOTH

Hirschfeld, who is pondering majors in sociology and sustainable development, has garnered financial support for his project in the form of several prizes, including a $36,000 Diller Teen Tikkun Olam Award from the Helen Diller Family Foundation, which recognizes Jewish teen leaders. He also has received a Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes, which carries a $2,500 cash award, and a $2,000 BIC 4 Good Grant from DoSomething.org.

In September, Hirschfeld was invited by the Clinton Global Initiative to attend the CGI Annual Meeting, a gathering of global leaders from businesses, nonprofits, NGOs and governments, at the Sheraton New York Times Square Hotel. There he met President Bill Clinton, of whose nonprofit work Hirschfeld has long been a fan. "What [Clinton] does is connect people, and the other attendees I met there will, I'm sure, help take Lit! Solar to the next level," he says.

Nathalie Alonso '08, *from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball's official Spanish language website.*

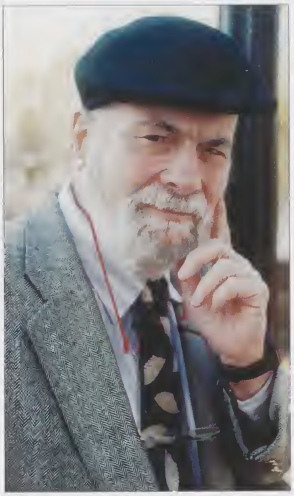
IN MEMORIAM

Arthur C. Danto '53 GSAS, the Johnsonian Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, an art critic and a philosopher, died on October 25, 2013, in Manhattan. He was 89.

Danto was one of the most prominent art critics of the Postmodern era. He was famously influenced by a 1964 New York Stable Gallery show that featured one of Andy Warhol's iconic reproductions of the Brillo box. Frustrated that the sculpture was indistinguishable from an ordinary object, Danto wondered what made it "art." In his 1964 essay "The Artworld," published in *The Journal of Philosophy*, he proposed that art became "art" because it was deemed meaningful by an artistically literate community — the "artworld."

Danto became a champion of avant-garde artists and the pop-art movement and was fascinated by how artists such as Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein could transform ordinary objects into art. His essay "The End of Art" radically proposed that art history had come to an end; that art was a medium of individuals and that in the contemporary world, a plurality of approaches would prevent any single style from dominating. In his book *What Art Is*, published this past March, Danto concluded that art was "the embodiment of an idea," forgoing the aesthetic and instead conveying "the power of meaning and possibility of truth."

Born in Ann Arbor, Mich., on January 1, 1924, Danto was raised in Detroit. He served for two years in the Army during WWII and was stationed in Italy and in North Africa. Danto studied art and art history at Wayne State, graduating in 1948. He aspired to become an artist specializing in woodcuts but took advantage of the GI Bill to study philosophy and



Arthur C. Danto '53 GSAS
PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

earned a Ph.D. from GSAS. Danto began teaching philosophy at Columbia in 1951 and chaired the department for several years. He was named the Johnsonian Professor Emeritus of Philosophy after his 1992 retirement.

Following such famous art critics as Russell Sturgis, Henry James and Clement Greenberg, Danto became *The Nation*'s art critic in 1984; he held this post until 2009 and was the longest-serving art critic in the magazine's history. Danto's critical style was influenced by his education, specifically the theories of 19th-century German philosopher Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel. In *The Nation*'s article "Remembering Arthur Danto," Peter G. Meyer wrote that what distinguished Danto from other critics was "his ability to discuss the actual meaning of a particular work of art, and even where it was exhibited, something that few critics dared to, or cared to, do on a regular basis."

Danto published some 30 books including *Encounters & Reflections: Art in the Historical Present*, which won the National Book Critics Circle Award in 1990; *Beyond the Brillo Box: The Visual Arts in Post-Historical Perspective*; and *Unnatural Wonders: Essays from the Gap Between Art & Life*, a collection of his essays and reviews.

Danto is survived by his second wife, Barbara Westman Danto, whom he married in 1980; and daughters, Ginger and Elizabeth. His first wife, Shirley Rovetch, died in 1978.

Karl Daum '15

Request for Nominations

The Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors requests nominations for new members. If you or a fellow alumnus/a have an interest in being an active volunteer leader on the CCAA board, please contact us at ccalumni@columbia.edu for more information or to submit a nomination.

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Roar, Lion, Roar

Olympian Nzingha Prescod '15 Balances Fencing, Academics

By Elena Hecht '09 Barnard

It is 10 a.m. on a Thursday and Nzingha Prescod '15, biting her lower lip, is poised in a deep squat on a strip in the fencing gym, eyes focused directly ahead, right arm gently bent — relaxed hand up, creased elbow down — like a cat ready to pounce. A blond boy stands to her right, holding a glove a few inches above her eye level. With no warning he drops the glove and, in a moment in which time seems to slow, Prescod extends her arm and, with a deliberate yet delicate power, drives her right foot forward into a lunge, catching the glove in her right hand with a practiced accuracy.

It is early September, and Prescod is not yet back to fencing after an intense summer of competition. But from even a glimpse of the 21-year-old's conditioning workout it is clear that her footwork is exceptional and her composure otherworldly — not surprising for a Columbia fencing team captain who competed in the London 2012 Olympics. Couple that with her history-making gold in May at the Marseille Foil Grand Prix, a triumph that made her the first U.S. women's foil fencer to win a Grand Prix title, and there's no doubt: Prescod is a champion.



Fencer Nzingha Prescod '15, who is currently ranked No. 1 in the United States and eighth in the world, with her gold medal from the 2011 Junior World Championships, held in Amman, Jordan.
PHOTO: MIKE DOTE

She is also no stranger to New York fencing. The Brooklyn native has been fencing foil, one of three weapons used in the sport, since she was 9, when her mother brought her for lessons at the Peter Westbrook Foundation (PWF), an organization founded by six-time Olympian Peter Westbrook that brings fencing to inner-city children. From the start, Prescod liked to win, and that thirst for success drove — and in many ways continues to drive — her dedication. For someone whose inclination to smile seems as natural as her skill with a sword, her fervor for athletic perfection is surprising — and Prescod knows it. "I keep it really hush-hush, but deep inside I'm super competitive," she says.

But ambition alone does not beget success. Michael Aufrichtig, Columbia's head fencing coach and former chairman of the New York Athletic Club fencing program, notes that Prescod — who is currently ranked No. 1 in the United States and eighth in the world — is in optimal physical form for the sport. "Also, mentally she is like that cool, calm, detached warrior," says Aufrichtig, who also draws attention to the combined power of Prescod's precise footwork and her sense of timing. "I feel she is one of the most talented, strong, creative, most impressive fencers in the United States and in the world."

It may seem daunting to balance an internationally successful athletics career with the rigor of a Columbia education, but for Prescod it is old hat: She has been harmonizing her academic life with sports-related travel since she was 13. This aptitude for maintaining balance has allowed Prescod, who came to the College from Stuyvesant H.S. and is majoring in political science, to strive for both fencing and academic success. She men-

SCOREBOARD

4 Number of matches Zack Hernandez '16 won to capture the 184-lb. division of the Michigan State Open wrestling tournament.

5 Number of matches won by the Columbia men's doubles team of Ashok Narayana '15 and Max Schnur '15 en route to the ITA/USTA National Indoor Intercollegiate Tennis Championship.

8 The highest national ranking achieved by Columbia's Ivy League champion men's cross country team this season.

tions making the Dean's List as a short-term goal before diving into her athletic aspirations — being on an international tournament podium again and with more consistency, and staying ranked in the top eight in the world. These coexisting goals require a busy schedule, with fencing practice six days a week, sometimes twice a day; volunteering at the Peter Westbrook Foundation Saturday Program, which offers fencing to youth ages 9–18 of all skill levels; traveling, often internationally, for competitions and training camps 11 months of the year; competing in the NCAA, national and international fencing seasons (which, to make things more complicated, overlap); and, of course, the demands of school.

But Prescod stresses that she thrives off a packed schedule. To train for the London 2012 Olympics she took the 2011–12 school year off (she entered Columbia with the Class of 2014), a time she describes as awful. "I needed a distraction. School is my distraction from fencing. And not a distraction in the bad way. I would go crazy from only fencing. Fencing is so mental and you really psych yourself out sometimes. … I have to do something else."

Thanks to Columbia's reputation for strong fencing and a number of PWF and Fencers Club teammates who went to Columbia, Prescod had wanted to attend the College since elementary school, though she notes that fencing aside, she loves the school. But ultimately New York was the biggest draw because, she says, "I didn't want to leave my coach."

That coach is Buckie Leach, Prescod's coach of 10 years and a US Fencing Hall of Fame member. Columbia fencers are encouraged to train with other coaches at clubs throughout New York City so as to access the diversity of competition that club fencing offers. As a result, throughout her time at Columbia Prescod has continued to train at the Fencers Club in midtown three to four times per week with Leach, whom she credits with shaping her work ethic. He instilled the concept that "'You've got to work hard all the time, 100 percent.' So I have that attitude about everything I care about," she says. "He has shaped me as a person in a lot of ways."

As she moves through her third year on campus, Prescod has her sights set on the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, where she hopes to have a chance to march in the Opening Ceremony (in 2012 she was deterred by an early-morning event the next day). And though she does not think about it much, in a sport that is known for historically lacking in diversity — Westbrook's sabre bronze medal in 1984 made him the first African-American Olympic fencing medalist, not to mention the first American medalist in fencing since 1960 — the significance of being "one of so few who've gone this far in this sport and who are black" is not lost on her. "I'm really glad that I can do this so younger black kids see that basketball and football aren't the only sports that they can do and be successful in. Fencing can take you so many places and give you so many opportunities and make you such a better person," says Prescod. "I really hope younger kids can see that through me."

To view video of Prescod fencing, go to Web Extras at college.columbia.edu/cct.

Elena Hecht '09 Barnard *is a New York-based writer and dancer, and a former* Columbia College Today *editorial assistant.*



Columbia's men's cross country team and its supporters celebrate the Lions' Ivy/Heps win at Van Cortlandt Park.
PHOTO: GENE BOYARS

Lions Win Men's Ivy/Heps Cross Country Crown

Columbia won the men's Ivy Heptagonal Cross Country Championship at Van Cortlandt Park on November 2, placing three runners among the top five finishers. It was the Lions' first Ivy men's cross country title since 2009 and fourth overall. Columbia finished with 48 points to knock off three-time defending champion Princeton, which had 56 points.

Nicolas Composto '14 ran the 8K course in a career-best time of 23 minutes, 44.5 seconds to finish in second place behind Harvard senior Maksim Korolev, who clocked 23:28.2. Composto's time was the best Ivy/Heps time in Columbia history. John Gregorek '14 finished fourth in 23:45.0 and Daniel Everett '15 was fifth at 23:46.3. All three earned All-Ivy First Team honors, a first for Columbia.

Three more Lions finished among the top 21 in a field of 95 runners. Jacob Sienko '14 was 17th at 24:07.0, Jack Boyle '17 was 20th at 24:14.2 and Ben Golestan '16 was 21st at 24:19.3.

In the women's race, Waverly Neer '15 placed second for the second consecutive year with a time of 20:20.0 for the 6K course, trailing only Dartmouth senior Abbey D'Agostino, who posted an Ivy-record time of 19:40.8. In the team standings, Columbia's women finished fifth as Dartmouth captured the crown.

Columbia's men's team placed second in the NCAA Northeast Regional on November 15 and then finished 25th in the NCAA Championships in Terre Haute, Ind., on November 23. Composto led the way, completing the 10K course in 30:37.8 to finish 30th and earn All-America honors. Sienko finished in 121st place, Boyle was 171st, Gregorek 190th and Joe Kotran '14 196th. Neer finished 219th in the women's event.

For the latest news on Columbia athletics, visit **gocolumbialions.com.**

21 The number of Columbia fencers who finished in the top 32 in the first North American Cup of the year, thus qualifying for National Division I Championships in 2014.

27 The margin of victory as Columbia's women's swimming team defeated Harvard for the first time in school history, 163.5–136.5, in the team's 2013–14 season opener.

Narayana, Schnur Win National Indoor Doubles Title

Columbia's duo of Ashok Narayana '15 and Max Schnur '15 stunned the top-seeded and No. 1 nationally ranked pair of Mikelis Libietis and Hunter Reese from Tennessee 6–3, 6–2 to win the doubles draw of the ITA / USTA National Indoor Intercollegiate Tennis Championships on November 10.

"The guys they played have been No. 1 in the country since February, and they hardly lose," Lions coach Bid Goswami said. "It makes it that much better beating the No. 1 team in the championship. Now everyone will be gunning for us, but it's great to win this and have a national championship under our belt."

Columbia, which hosted the tournament at the USTA-Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, entered the doubles draw as a wild card and earned the program's first collegiate Grand Slam and national tournament crown. It was also the first national title earned by an Ivy League team since 1999, when James Blake of Harvard won the singles championship.

"Once we won the first set, the chants started coming, 'Let's go Lions!' and I think we fed off that really well," Schnur said. "It was a great atmosphere for us. We knew we could beat any team, but now we actually won a championship."

"We had good game planning and strategy," Narayana said. "We've been in these situations, so we knew if we played well we would have a shot."

Narayana and Schnur won their opening match of the four-day tournament over the No. 3 doubles team in the nation, Jackson Withrow and Junior Ore from Texas A&M, by an 8–4 score. The Columbia partnership continued their success with an 8–2 victory over Rafael Aita and Sam Williams of North Carolina-Wilmington, then advanced to the semifinals by beating Simon Felix and Deni Zmak of Embry-Riddle 8–3. Narayana and Schnur earned a shot at the national crown by beating Florida State's Benjamin Lock and Marco Nunez 6–4, 6–4 in the semifinals.

Ruzika Honored by Athletics

Columbia Athletics dedicated the Richard M. Ruzika Theater and Classroom in The Campbell Sports Center on October 19 in honor of Richard M. Ruzika '81. President Lee C. Bollinger and Trustees Chair William V. Campbell '62, '64 TC were present at the dedication.

Ruzika, who played defensive tackle for the Columbia football team, had a successful career in international finance and became the commodities head at Goldman Sachs. A generous contributor to the University and to Athletics, Ruzika was a member of the College's Board of Visitors, received the John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement in 2006, was a member of the Columbia Campaign for Athletics Leadership Committee and contributed a leadership gift toward The Campbell Sports Center. He died on May 7, 2012, following a stroke that occurred three days after knee surgery.

"We are so thrilled to honor Rich with the naming of the Richard M. Ruzika Theater and Classroom," said M. Dianne Murphy, director of intercollegiate athletics and physical education. "Rich was such a generous and caring person. He was beloved by his teammates, coaches, classmates and colleagues. We are so honored that his wife, Ruthanne, and their children, Craig ['16] and Caitlin, could join us at the dedication."

The largest number of soccer alumni in Columbia history turned out on October 12 for the dedication of the Rocco B. Commisso ['70E, '75 Business] Soccer Stadium at the Baker Athletics Complex. The venue honors Commisso, a three-time All-Ivy player who led the undefeated freshman soccer team in 1967 and then co-captained, with Len Renery '71, the Lions to their first NCAA tournament appearance in 1970. The dedication took place between the women's and men's matches against Penn and included soccer alumni from five decades. Commisso (bottom row, center) is the founder and CEO of Mediacom Communications, a cable TV and broadband provider, and has been an active contributor to the men's soccer program for more than 40 years. He co-founded the alumni advisory group Friends of Columbia Soccer and served as its chair from 1979–86, among other initiatives.

PHOTO: MIKE McLAUGHLIN



Young Basketball Lions Take the Court

Youth will be served this season on Columbia's men's basketball team. With no seniors on the roster, coach Kyle Smith is turning to the players he has brought to Morningside Heights during the past three seasons as he looks to build a title contender.

"This is our third recruiting class, and we finally have our group of guys who fit our style of play," says Smith, whose team went 12–16 last season and 4–10 in Ivy League play. That record is a bit deceiving, as Columbia beat two teams that reached the NCAA Championships (Harvard and Villanova) and lost eight Ivy games by six points or fewer.

Smith notes that while his team is young, four players have significant experience as starters and seven played at least 10 minutes a game last year. "We may be young," says Smith, "but these guys have had a taste of success and really want to take this program to a higher level."

With the graduation of Brian Barbour '13, the team leader in scoring and assists last season, and Mark Cisco '13, its rebounding leader, Smith is turning to Grant Mullins '16 and Cory Osetkowski '15 as key building blocks.

Mullins averaged 9.7 ppg and shot .374 from three-point range last season, and gained valuable experience this summer playing with the Canadian National Development Team, which compiled a 7–0 record at the Seven Nations Tournament in China against some of the top young talent in the world. Joining Mullins in a deep backcourt are Isaac Cohen '16, Maodo Lo '16, Meiko Lyles '15, Noah Springwater '15 and Kendall Jackson '17. Smith began the season using a three-guard starting lineup, with Cohen and Lo joining Mullins for the opening tip.

Osetkowski, 6-11 and 258 lbs., is a deft passer with a good shooting touch who keys the frontcourt, and Smith will look to run the offense through him at center more often to take advantage of his skills. Luke Petrasek '17, a lean 6-10 forward, completed the starting lineup on opening night. Joining them in the frontcourt are Alex Rosenberg '15, who competed for the United States in the Maccabiah Games in Israel this past summer, and Zach En'Wezoh '16, who had an injury-plagued first season. Smith is hopeful that 7-1 center Conor Voss '17E will see more action as the season progresses.

The Lions began the non-league portion of their season with a strong 73–54 victory over Maryland-Eastern Shore before losing 71–70 to Manhattan in the final second of play and 62–53 at Michigan State, at the time ranked second in the nation. Columbia will open Ivy competition against Cornell at Levien Gym on January 18.

Save the Date!

Dec. 9
Women's basketball reception at Iona

Dec. 28
Men's basketball plays St. John's in the Brooklyn Hoops Winter Festival at the Barclays Center (televised by Fox Sports 1)

Jan. 18
Men's basketball opens Ivy League season against Cornell at Levien Gym

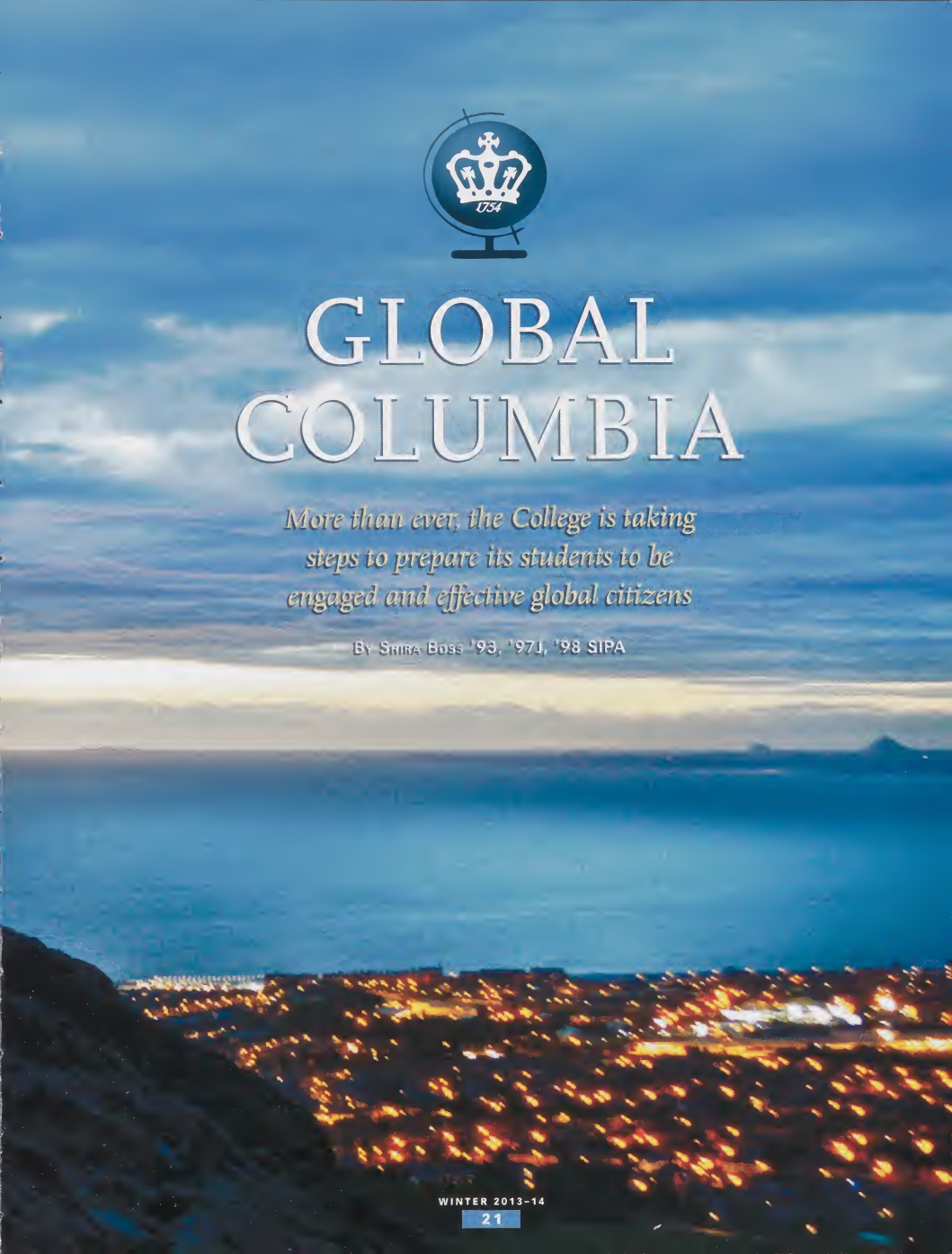
Feb. 8
Men's basketball reception at Penn

Feb. 17
Women's Consortium networking event





One of the winning images from the Office of Global Programs' 2013–14 study abroad photo contest: *Arthur's Seat* in Edinburgh, just before sunrise.
PHOTO: MICHELLE ANN WORTHINGTON '14



GLOBAL COLUMBIA

More than ever, the College is taking steps to prepare its students to be engaged and effective global citizens

By Shira Boss '93, '97J, '98 SIPA





Maddy Cohen '13 (second row, far right) and other biology students visited the village of Xijiang, in Guizhou Province, China, in summer 2012 to discuss local forestry and agricultural practices. Left, the students at a banana plantation outside a village in southern Yunnan Province.

PHOTOS: TOP, COURTESY MATT PALMER; LEFT, SHAHID NAEEM

Maddy Cohen '13 came to the College from her hometown of North Palm Beach, Fla., interested in studying health and also ecology. She loves to travel but didn't anticipate fitting study abroad into her schedule. Then, during orientation, she attended an environmental biology presentation and immediately pinpointed the first of her two majors. "I was dazzled by the traveling to all parts of the globe to understand species and systems," she says. Her other major, sustainable development, "came about later, as I realized I wanted to see more of the intersection between ecological systems and human health."

And, contrary to her initial expectations, travel the globe Cohen did. First, after her sophomore year, she joined 15 other students who went with Dustin Rubenstein, assistant professor in the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology (E3B), on a research trip to Kenya to study tropical biology. "The trip was unparalleled," Cohen says. "We would wake up every morning and bird-watch along the river, looking across at baboons and hearing other animals — hippos, elephants — nearby. We completed several research projects while in the field, understanding research concepts from project planning to execution, something that is hard to do within the classroom."

At the end of her junior year, Cohen again went abroad, this time to China, with other biology students, with Matt Palmer, director of undergraduate studies for E3B, and with Shahid Naeem, professor of ecology in E3B and director of the Earth Institute Center for Environmental Sustainability. They presented research to students at Minzu University of China in Beijing and traveled to rural areas to learn more about how ethnic minorities are managing their forest and water resources.

Upon graduation, Cohen found ready employment in New York City with a sustainability management consulting firm. "I work with international clients, helping businesses improve their environmental footprint and social impact," she says. "It's a great job that combines several of my interests in helping people and the environment."

By virtue of being at Columbia University in

the City of New York, College undergraduates have long enjoyed a cosmopolitan atmosphere. But now, more than ever, the College is taking steps to ensure that its students are thinking globally, opening their minds to and setting their sights on the world beyond Morningside Heights.

"We want the College to prepare students to be engaged and effective global citizens," says James J. Valentini, dean of the College and v.p. for undergraduate education, who hopes that all students who are interested in studying, working or doing research abroad have an opportunity to do so during their time at Columbia. "Alumni often tell me that having the chance to work or study overseas opened doors of understanding that no other experience

could have offered. But the global character of a Columbia College education is also delivered in our classrooms every day by our broadly diverse and international student body that exposes every student to a world of different voices, cultures and ideas."

Indeed, while "global" might be something of a buzzword in today's culture, it is nevertheless a big idea that translates in an array of meaningful ways to the realm of a College education. It applies to the content of the curriculum (both on campus and in the overseas academic programs the College runs), to the composition of the student body, and to the atmosphere and activities that are fostered on campus. It speaks to the way the University is expanding its footprint through the Columbia Global Centers as well as to the increasing range of international experiences available to undergraduates in research, work or study abroad. And it speaks to a mindset — to a broadening of awareness and ability to understand multiple perspectives — that is crucial to thriving in this new, interdependent world.

"My view is, if we're going to have our students educated for the world they will inhabit and lead," says President Lee C. Bollinger, "they should be familiar now with China, they should visit and work in countries in Africa, they should have been to India and done some of their coursework there, they should have a feel for South America. A lot of this is just introducing young people to this very, very interconnected world. The person who used to be a citizen of California, then became a citizen of the United States, now has to become a global citizen. And students, young people, know this."

Columbia encourages this crossover by having an Office of Global Programs (OGP), responsible for helping with fellowships as well as for bringing exchange students to Morningside Heights and sending students to study abroad. "Our students need not just to function in a global environment but to understand and tolerate ambiguity, to work collaboratively, to work where the rules are not clear," says Michael Pippenger, dean of undergraduate global programs and assistant v.p. of international education, "so they can succeed in that global environment, not just today or six months from now, but six years from now and 60 years from now."

Providing a global experience starts with

admissions, and building a class whose diversity includes students from many countries and cultures. "Columbia reaches out to prospective students from around the world in a variety of ways, including letters, emails and a special section of the admissions website," says Jessica Marinaccio, dean of undergraduate admissions and financial aid. "We also place great importance on face-to-face outreach. Members of the admissions staff visited more than 30 countries this fall, where they met with prospective students at high schools, held information sessions and engaged with international organizations that assist students applying to colleges in the United States."

Additionally, the Office of Undergraduate Admissions tries to connect prospective international students with current international students through its Global Recruitment Committee, a volunteer student organization that assists with international recruitment. GRC members, who hail from around the world, hold online chats and webinars for prospective students and write personalized postcards to admitted international students, among other things. "The goal," Marinaccio says, "as it is with all of our recruitment efforts, is to help international students decide if Columbia might be the right fit for them."

This concerted effort is producing results: Sixteen percent of the College Class of 2017 hails from abroad — 47 countries in all — with the top countries represented being South Korea, China, the United Kingdom, Canada and India. Two decades ago, just four percent of the members of the Class of 1997 came from foreign countries, with 24 countries represented, led by China, Hong Kong, Pakistan, Germany and India.

> "We want the College to prepare students to be engaged and effective global citizens."
> Dean James J. Valentini

Diversity of the student body is further enhanced through visiting international students, who come to Columbia for a semester or year, as well as exchange students who hail from the 14 institutions in Europe and Asia with which Columbia has student exchange agreements; these range from a longstanding arrangement with the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences-Po) to a more recently established partnership with The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. In addition to adding international perspectives to the residence halls, classrooms and campus activities, the exchange students — from 40 to 50 each academic year — serve as ambassadors to introduce College students to these reciprocal study abroad opportunities. "When students are interested in going abroad to a partner institution, we make a point of connecting them with an on-campus exchange partner," says Scott Carpenter, OGP's associate dean of study abroad. "That's been valuable in terms of logistics and orienting them to what that institution is like."

Speaking of the Class of 2017, Marinaccio says, "Our international community is incredibly diverse. We continually strive to bring new perspectives to the Columbia community, and for the first time, students from Malta, Honduras and the Palestinian Territories are represented in our undergraduate population."

She adds that attracting a diverse and talented student body is an important goal of the Admissions Office, the College and the University. "Our endeavor is to create a class that represents a variety of perspectives and backgrounds, including those from all over the world, so that numerous voices are represented around a Core Curriculum table. This adds to the academic and student life community at Columbia and greatly benefits all students, who constantly engage with and learn from students who are different from themselves."

When the students converge on Morningside

Heights, they quickly are immersed in the crown jewel of a College education, the Core Curriculum.

"The Core is designed to shed light from multiple perspectives on the basic question of what it means to be human," says Roosevelt Montás '95, '04 GSAS, director of the Center for the Core Curriculum and associate dean of academic affairs. "As our world

has become more integrated, and as Core classrooms have become more international, these skills honed in class discussion assume a global reach, equipping our students to understand their own lives in broad terms that emphasize our shared humanity."

The specifically non-Western component of the Core is the two-semester Global Core requirement (formerly Major Cultures), which according to the Bulletin "asks students to engage directly with the variety of civilizations and the diversity of traditions that, along with the West, have formed the world and continue to interact in it today." Students choose two courses from an approved list from various departments that explore the cultures of Africa, Asia, the Americas and the Middle East in a historical context. Examples are "Buddhism: East Asian" (religion department), "Economic Organization and Development of Japan" (economics), "Caribbean Diaspora Literature" (English and Comparative Literature) and "Global Urbanism" (sociology). "The aim is to expose students to a range of perspectives on fundamental human issues and to enrich their sense of themselves as members of a global community," Montás says.

Such courses could also soon debut overseas. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation earlier this year awarded Columbia a grant to globalize the liberal arts curriculum, and four departments have proposed courses to be taught abroad, which are currently in the process of being approved. The syllabi for these courses, which include Art Humanities and Music Humanities to be taught in Paris, would be tailored to specific locales and allow students "to take advantage of the history, architecture and traditions you can find in a city like Paris," says Giuseppe Gerbino, associate professor of music and chair of the Department of Music.

As Gerbino notes, "One of the most significant developments in the history of Western polyphony is associated with the construction of the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris and the musical repertory cultivated in that specific spatial and ceremonial context. While taking Music Hum, students will be able to study the architectural spaces for which historically important works were created and in which they were first performed."

> "The Core is designed to shed light from multiple perspectives on the basic question of what it means to be human."
>
> Roosevelt Montás '95, '04 GSAS

Whether taught in New York or abroad, the Core nurtures an understanding and appreciation of all cultures. "Music Humanities participates in the Western Core, the texts and art works of which are in demand all over the world," says Elaine Sisman, the Anne Parsons Bender Professor of Music and chair of Music Humanities. "By training students in critical listening practices we help them to engage with all musics, as well as enabling them to participate in the cultural life of the present."

She notes that the department has taught musics of the world since 1971; Asian Music Humanities (one semester devoted to East Asian, and one to West and South Asian music), now part of the Global Core, was established in the mid-'80s; and, in addition to the history and theory of art music, the department also covers popular music (in America and elsewhere in the world), jazz, experimental and electronic music, African-American music, music in society, music in cross-cultural perspectives, music from humanistic and social-science perspectives, and more.

Departments are becoming more globally

minded — in faculty recruitment, course offerings, majors and concentrations, and opportunities for students to travel abroad for study or research. About one-third of the College's more than 100 majors and concentrations are programs of study that are either specifically foreign (East Asian studies, French, Hispanic studies, Italian cultural studies, modern Greek studies …) or naturally lend themselves to international scope (evolutionary biology of the human species, ethnicity and race studies, history and theory of architecture …), including two of the newest additions, human rights and sustainable development.

The Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race at Columbia University revised its curriculum three years ago to make it more comparative and global. "It was heavily centered on the U.S., and to some extent it still is; the U.S. is very important to the work that we do. But we thought it was also important for students to get a global perspective on race, ethnicity and other forms of social difference," says Frances Negrón-Muntaner, associate professor of English and comparative literature and director of CSER.

Whereas the department used to have three separate majors that started with "Introduction to …" Latino Studies, for example, and students then continued with more in-depth area studies, now all CSER students take three foundation courses, one each on a history of the modern world, theory and research. "This emphasis allows students to consider that what happens in the U.S. is related to and illuminated by what takes place elsewhere, and that there is a history to this interconnectivity," Negrón-Muntaner says. "This approach underscores how sometimes very local experiences are connected to thoughts and practices many miles away."

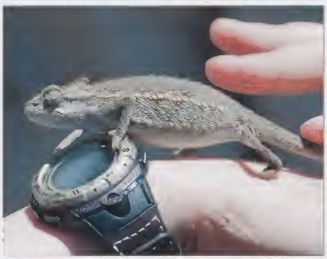
Although the department "highly encourages" its students to study abroad, Negrón-Muntaner makes the point that traveling is not the only way to gain a more global perspective. "There's a tendency to think of global as foreign or 'someplace else.' It's fundamental to the transformation of Columbia, and higher education in general, that globalization is understood as a shift in *thinking*," she says. "Many shifts in thinking can occur when someone encounters an experience they've never had, but this is not simply the result of traveling. It is the result of thinking differently about the world."

For several years running, an on-campus

event has been organized to familiarize students with the myriad opportunities abroad and the ways to study or work internationally. Last year, more than 25 participants came together at the international expo to present their programs. The more obvious ones were OGP (study abroad) and the Center for Career Education (internships, jobs) but also included were Columbia Maison Française, the Weatherhead East Asian Institute and the Earth Institute.

"There's more of an emphasis from many areas within Columbia to encourage experiences that develop skill sets in line with being a global citizen," says Heather Perceval, associate dean of experiential education and student enterprises at CCE. "We hear







Tropical biology students study abroad at The Mpala Research Centre in Kenya. Clockwise from top left: ants living in the swollen thorns of acadia trees warrant a close-up look; College and Barnard students in June 2011; a chameleon made for a friendly addition to the group.
PHOTOS: DUSTIN RUBENSTEIN

from employers more frequently that they are looking for students with global competencies: to be adaptable, to be flexible, to deal well with ambiguity. Those are in line with experiences you get abroad, having to navigate a new culture."

Among the international internships that are available to students are those offered through CCE's Columbia Experience Overseas (CEO) program (see "Passport to India," Fall 2013), which sends students on summer internships to Amman, Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Shanghai, Singapore and, as of this year, Mumbai and Bangalore. The students are connected to local employers as well as to alumni mentors; they also live together in Columbia-sponsored housing and take part in local programming that helps them network and get the most out of being abroad. This past summer, 64 undergraduates participated, roughly 70 percent of them from the College.

"Launching a program in India this past summer was particularly significant," says Kavita Sharma, dean of CCE. "Not only did CCE provide opportunities for 11 undergraduates to intern in India but we did it by leveraging our relationship with the Mumbai Global Center and securing funding from Citigroup via the U.S. State Department. A few of our student interns were even able to travel to Delhi to present their experiences as U.S. interns at a Strategic Dialogue on Higher Education between the U.S. and Indian governments."

As in Mumbai, the Columbia Global Centers play a significant role in opening up opportunities for undergraduates abroad. There are currently eight centers, with the others being in Amman, Beijing, Istanbul, Nairobi, Paris, Rio de Janeiro and Santiago. Rather than establishing degree-granting branch campuses in foreign cities, as some peer institutions have done (for example, NYU Abu Dhabi and Yale-NUS College in Singapore), the centers — part of an initiative that the University launched in March 2009 — are more like intellectual outposts, seen as "Columbia embedded in what is emerging as a global community of scholarship," according to the centers' website.

"We need to have bases around the world that will help our faculty and students learn about the world," says Bollinger. "You're not really going to have the impact on your own teaching and research through branch campuses that you will with something like Global Centers. In my view, it's really our faculty and our students who need to have the opportunities to learn what the issues are, learn what they need to know, develop research programs, develop classes and courses — and that's not going to happen if you have a branch campus." (See "A Conversation with President Lee C. Bollinger," on page 28.)

The centers maintain small local staffs, establish ties with local institutions and scholars, and can serve as a home-away-from-Morningside for faculty and students researching and studying abroad as well as alumni working or traveling in those areas. The Global Center in Paris, for example, is home to Reid Hall, where Columbia's undergraduate programs have been located since 1964, and the Global Center in Mumbai hosts an orientation program and other events for undergrads interning in India as part of CEO.

"Our approach facilitates the learning that comes through dialogue with international academic partners while also allowing the Columbia community to share its knowledge and expertise in locales around the world where it can most powerfully help address 21st-century challenges. The Global Centers provide faculty and students with enhanced opportunities and in some cases, opportunities that they wouldn't have had otherwise; to get out in the world, to discover, engage and learn, while at the





Two of the winning images from the Office of Global Programs' 2013–14 study abroad photo contest (top): a Nigerian marketplace; (above): camping on the banks of the Okavango Delta in Botswana.

PHOTOS: (FROM TOP) OMOYENI OLANREWAJU CLEMENT '15; VICTORIA ROBSON '14

same time not mandating the use of the centers. They are the base of several interdisciplinary research projects, the home of important student programming across our schools and colleges, and the catalyst for partnerships with academia across the world."

Valentini's goal of having every student who

wants to do so go abroad at some point in his or her undergraduate career could mean a student having an international experience as early as the summer after his or her first year through a study abroad program, or later on through a summer internship or research program.

"It's really an exciting and dynamic time," Pippenger says. "There's a fantastic focus right now on international opportunities for undergraduates. There is a tremendous amount of support and encouragement to innovate and deliver the next generation of global programs for Columbia undergraduates."

Another way to gain international experience is through the Alternative Break Program, started two years ago. Students submit proposals for civic engagement projects in the U.S. or abroad, form teams of student volunteers and travel to their site during winter, spring or summer break. A student board runs the program, with administrative support and matching funding from the Office of Student Engagement. Projects have included a three-week trip to Tibetan areas of China to create a sustainable waste management system for rural communities, a nine-day trip to Ecuador to plant trees and work on other community projects with an NGO and a three-week trip to Ghana to distribute eyeglasses, assist at an eye clinic and help educate local residents about eye care. The student proposal for the last project noted, "This will also be a great chance for each team member to mature as a global citizen, after having experienced the healthcare scene in a completely different nation."

About 25 percent of Columbia students study abroad at some point in their undergraduate careers. [See "Study Abroad Grows in Popularity, Programs and Places," on page 36.] Eight years ago Columbia ran seven programs, all in Europe and Asia. Today there are 16 and they include locations in Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. In addition, students can choose to study in any of more than 200 programs in 150 cities worldwide through special arrangements with institutions overseas.

The study abroad experience has evolved in recent years. "In the past, there was an assumption that study abroad for our students was somehow 'time off from Columbia' or somehow an 'add-on' to a Columbia education," Pippenger says. "Now that couldn't be further from the truth. Our students recognize the many benefits that come from a global experience as being an integral part of their intellectual development."

Spending a semester or a year abroad at a foreign institution are the traditional options, but departments, institutes and even faculty are designing their own programs to send students overseas.

OGP, in conjunction with the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, has for the past three years run the Global Scholars Program Summer Research Workshop. Students travel to several foreign cities — last summer they were Beijing and Santiago; 2014 will feature Beijing, Berlin, Moscow and Ulan Bator (Mongolia), with travel on the Trans-Siberian Railway — to conduct in-depth, comparative social science research. In the spring, students will take a seminar in the spring to prepare them for the summer experience.

Another example is the Summer Ecosystem Experiences for Undergraduates (SEE-U) program, run by the Earth Institute and open to undergraduates of all majors. Students study ecology and biology through lectures and labs and conduct fieldwork in places such as Brazil and Jordan; the latter is conducted in partnership with the Columbia Global Center in Amman and includes travel throughout the country, covering wetland, marine, freshwater, desert and forest ecosystems.

Starting next summer, rising sophomores will be eligible to receive merit-based grants to study abroad in Columbia-run programs where there are Columbia Global Centers through the new Presidential Global Fellowships Initiative. This program might be expanded to provide funds for students to travel for research or

to do work related to their courses. Bollinger cited as an example students working on water conservation traveling to the Global Center in Amman to examine the issue in Jordan and surrounding areas of the Middle East.

In addition, departments increasingly are working with faculty to send students abroad to work on their theses or for faculty-led research projects. "Students want to emulate the professors they see who have these fantastic careers," Pippenger says. "They see them going to these places around the world and want to be that 'in person' in their own careers."

Holger Klein, professor of art history and archaeology, department chair and a recent recipient of both the Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching and a Distinguished Faculty Award, is involving undergraduates in his Istanbul Digital Mapping Project in Turkey. The project, with an on-location headquarters at the Columbia Global Center in Istanbul, is a topographical survey that documents the city's Late Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman monuments. Students are helping to conduct photographic fieldwork as well as archival research in Istanbul to create a state-of-the-art digital platform that will facilitate access to scholarly, archival, photographic and other materials pertaining to the history of Byzantion–Constantinople–Istanbul. It also will serve scholars, students and the public at large as a reliable source for an array of information on the city's history and monuments in preparation for site visits, individual study and research, and teaching in the classrooms at Columbia and beyond.

"I could not be more thrilled to provide Columbia students with an opportunity to study Istanbul's historic monuments on site and to contribute to their documentation and preservation at a time when these monuments are under particular threat due to the pressures of urban expansion and renewal projects," says Klein, who is preparing a second fieldwork season as part of Columbia's joint summer course with Istanbul's Boğaziçi University in June and July 2014.

Rubenstein, the E3B professor, has organized student travel separately to Kenya and Panama during the summer to do fieldwork on his research with birds and shrimp, respectively, in those locations. "Columbia students are amazingly bright and can adapt to new situations easily. Even those who haven't traveled abroad previously tend to do well when immersed in a new environment for the first time," he says.

He notes that his department's students go in many different directions after graduation, including graduate school, medical school, consulting, NGOs, even Wall Street, and that international experience is always helpful preparation for their futures. "Study or field work abroad teaches them how to think, how to write, to problem-solve, to troubleshoot, to design a project and interpret data — plus they're interacting with people from another culture. It gets them out of the Ivory Tower and allows them to apply what they have learned on campus in real world situations," he says. "All that translates to any career."

Rubenstein wanted to increase opportunities

for students, in particular science majors, to study abroad, so he has developed an intensive, one-semester program in Kenya that focuses on tropical biology and sustainable development. Open to all students but geared toward those majoring or concentrating in E3B or sustainable development, the spring semester program, run in conjunction with Princeton, features four intensive classes of three weeks each along with immersion in fieldwork. Students work daily from sunrise to sunset for nearly three months collecting data, writing papers, developing projects, and interacting with wildlife and local communities.

Julia Pilowsky '12 chose to study abroad during one semester of her junior year, in South Africa, through the Organization for Tropical Studies. "It was an amazing experience. We traveled from national park to national park all over South Africa, and I got to do fieldwork on 10 projects and led the fieldwork on two of them," she says. "I gained a lot of skills because now I know how to do everything from survey tidal pools for species diversity to measure biomass of tree trunks."

Directly from there, Pilowsky traveled to The Mpala Research Centre in central Kenya for a six-week research trip to study the songs of the superb starling, a bird common to East Africa, under the direction of Rubenstein. Her project came about because on campus, Pilowsky had attended a presentation given by one of Rubenstein's graduate students about how birds use simple calls to recognize relatives. The graduate student mentioned that nobody had studied their more complex songs. "I decided that I was going to be the first one to study it," Pilowsky says.

> "Our students recognize the many benefits that come from a global experience as being an integral part of their intellectual development."
> Michael Pippenger

Rubenstein helped her develop a thesis topic about the function of birdsong, and E3B gave her a grant to complete the fieldwork in Kenya. When the thesis was finished it became an article, co-authored with Rubenstein, that was published in the May 2013 issue of *Animal Behaviour*, a leading journal in the field of behavioral ecology. Pilowsky credits the experience with getting her into a Ph.D. program in biology at Tufts, where she now studies as a recipient of the National Science Foundation's prestigious Graduate Research Fellowship. "But those are just the tangible markers of success," she says. "It gave me real confidence to be able to independently plan and carry out a field research project, even in a new environment. It was amazing to get to know researchers from all over the world. Not least, I'll always be grateful that I got to spend some time in the Kenyan savanna, which is surely one of the most beautiful ecosystems on Earth, and to observe some of the world's most fascinating animals. After all, it's a love of the natural world that got me into this field in the first place."

Whether by conducting fieldwork in Kenya or Panama, connecting with students from around the world in a seminar room in Hamilton Hall or signing on for any of the wide range of opportunities in between, today's students are continually engaging with and being shaped by experiences that will prepare them for citizenship in the global community. As Negrón-Muntaner of CSER says, "Global thought is not about being on the go all the time. It's something that we can do every day, wherever we are."

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A Conversation with President Lee C. Bollinger



Belay Ejigu Begashaw, director of the Columbia Global Center in Nairobi, shakes hands with Jean Magnano Bollinger at the center's dedication on January 14, 2013, as President Lee C. Bollinger looks on.
PHOTO: COLLINS GITUMA

Lee C. Bollinger became president of Columbia University on June 1, 2002. Under his leadership, the University has expanded its international presence with the creation of eight Columbia Global Centers. In this interview with CCT *Editor Alex Sachare '71, Bollinger talks about the philosophy behind the Global Centers, their impact on our students and faculty now and in the future, and what it means to be a global citizen in the 21st century.*

How has the way you think about higher education and the mission of a university like Columbia evolved over the course of your tenure as president?

In the last decade, maybe decade and a half, the world as we have known it has changed and begun to change radically. There are many reasons for this, but there are two primary ones. One is the development of the global economy, the opening of markets all over the world in countries that before this were closed to the capitalist economy, and that brings not only trade but also foreign investment and movement of capital. There are many problems and many challenges posed by this, but it is a fact that economic forces are driving enormous changes in the world. The second major development is the expansion of new technologies of communication — the Internet and to some extent also satellite communications — that have made it possible for the first time in human history to communicate instantaneously all over the globe. I have been a scholar of free speech, free press and the First



Amendment for all my life, and every time a major new communication technology is invented the world changes significantly, as it did in the United States in the 1930s through the '60s and '70s with radio and television broadcasting. So the development of these two forces is making the world a very different and much more integrated place.

There always have been global issues, but the prevalence of them now, the centrality of them for basic life in any society, is much greater. We have a global economy, but we don't have a means of regulating that global economy, of organizing the elements of it. Climate change, issues of censorship globally, everything you look to now has a global character to it. That new world, and the changes that are being wrought by these forces, means you have to step back and think about the fields and the subjects that you do research in, the classes that you teach, the knowledge that you want to impart to young people. I think everything needs to be reconsidered, rethought and planned for this world, which appears to be the course the world would take over the next several decades and beyond. One never knows, of course, but that's the trajectory we're on.

Universities always stand in a somewhat removed relationship with the external world. That's by design, because we want to be able to reflect on major issues and do so independently over quite a period of time. We're different from other institutions in those ways. You don't want to get too removed, so removed that you're not thinking about real issues for humanity, but you don't want to become so close to the issues of the moment that you lose sight of the bigger questions that really are our bailiwick. When the world shifts in this magnitude, you then have to step back as an institution and rethink things.

What role do the eight Columbia Global Centers play in this rethinking of teaching and research at the University?

It's my belief that we need to help our faculty, our schools, our departments and our students learn more about this world and see how it will affect their fields, the subjects of their research, the lives of our students, and therefore the education they will receive. We need to have bases around the world to aid in this pursuit. We need to think of ourselves as explorers. We have to regain a sense of what the new reality is, because it's on top of that sense of reality that you then begin to come up with the questions that academic institutions are designed to try to address.

Obviously, Columbia is already one of the most global universities with a student body that is among the most international in the country and a faculty filled with eminent experts in all areas of the world. But when you talk to these faculty, they are among the first to say, I need to understand not only my area better, but I need to understand my area more in relationship to other areas. In order to understand China, you need to understand South America, and vice versa, and the role of countries in Africa in the emerging trade and so on. So even though we're extremely international to start with, and that's been part of Columbia's great identity and great character, that doesn't mean that we can sit back and just continue thinking as we have. So I set out four years ago to build up these centers, and many faculty and people in the administration have helped. As of last spring we had all eight of them launched with very, very distinguished leaders in each one. This had been worked on by Ken Prewitt, who was in charge of developing the Global Centers, followed by Safwan Masri, who is now in charge of them.



Students participating in the Arabic summer language program at the Columbia Global Center in Amman visit Petra, a world-famous archaeological site in southern Jordan.

Why Global Centers and not branch campuses, specifically?

Keep in mind that these are not individual centers. That's not the right way to think of them. They're really a network, and that's part of the understanding of the global interconnections.

We were approached to set up a school or schools in various places around the world. I decided not to do that, and I think that was a decision that was reflective of the institution's desire. Very few people at Columbia, very few faculty favored setting up branch campuses. There are several reasons why I think that's not the right course, at least not for Columbia. First of all, it's very difficult to maintain quality. Remember, by definition a branch campus is a kind of separate faculty and a separate student body. You hope that there will be some intermingling of faculty and perhaps of students, but actually the way these things work 99 times out of 100, there tends to be a discrete faculty and students. So it's very hard to maintain quality control.

The second reason relates to academic freedom. We cannot disengage with the world, but we have to be very careful that we don't sacrifice our core principles. So you need a strategy that allows you to leave a given place in the world if your core principles are threatened. If you have invested in a branch campus, with all the reliance that takes place by faculty, students and staff, that's very hard to do. So ease of exit is a second reason. A third reason is that what tends to happen when you do branch campuses is that you only go to places that have enormous wealth, and I think that tends to skew the experience that you're having. It's extremely expensive to set up a branch campus, so even very wealthy universities are not going to do it on their own. And the last reason, which is really, I think, the most important, is that you're not going to have the impact on your own teaching and research through branch campuses that you will with something like the Global Centers. In my view, it's our faculty and our students who need to have the opportunities to learn what the issues are, learn what they need to know, develop research programs, develop classes and courses, and that's not going to happen if you have a branch campus. I don't think it fulfills the philosophy needed.

How do the Global Centers inform and enrich the teaching and learning that is going at Columbia University in the City of New York?

It can happen in many, many ways. We recruit students from around the world, and the Global Centers are going to help with that. We want to connect with our alumni, and they can help with that. We want to do public outreach, and they help with that. But the key is the teaching and research. Take the example of the faculty from the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, who decided two summers ago that they would take a group of undergraduate students and study urban planning, rural migration, and issues of extreme poverty in the development of cities. They utilized the Global Centers in Beijing and Mumbai, conducting their courses there. The Global Centers were not only able to provide space for this but also arrange for lectures and experts and outings and so on. This past summer they went to Beijing and Santiago, again a comparative approach. That's precisely the kind of experience that becomes transformative, both for students and also even for faculty. Holger Klein [see "Global Columbia," page 20] is a great example of someone who can talk eloquently about how the Global Centers helped his work. He was able to do things through the help of the Global Centers that he wasn't otherwise able to do. Women Creating Change, a group set up by many of the faculty in the Institute for Women and Gender, is looking at women's issues, gender issues, all over the world. The group has used the centers to hold meetings and conferences to experience a comparative global perspective on these issues and to figure out what research projects to pursue.

If you're a faculty member, in many ways you already have international colleagues and you're probably working on some issues that are global in dimension. But this can ease and enhance your ability to do that, and that's the key. For a student, it opens up a whole new way of experiencing the world in addition to the classic forms. Such an experience for a student in a foreign country, looking at a serious issue such as urban development or clean water, really can be transformational. My view is, if we're going to have our students educated for the world they will inhabit and lead, they should be familiar now with China, they should visit and work in countries in Africa, they should have been to India and done some of their coursework there, they should have a feel for South America. A lot of this is just introducing young people to this very interconnected world that is now, in a way, the source of the issues and problems and potential that we need to focus on.

How can the Global Centers influence undergraduate applications from those regions, and how can they benefit alumni who live or work there?

The number of international students in the College has gone up significantly in the past five years, and I think this is a really important development. We need to both help recruit and to decide who to bring to our campus and our global education. Just like 50 years ago Columbia was largely a New York City/Northeast university and eventually people from the West Coast started coming to Columbia and we ended up trying to make sure that we recruited the best students from all over the country, now we need to do that globally. That's the future for Columbia — a much more international student body. I don't want to overstate that, because there always is going to be a tension between being an American university and a global university, and that will have to be sorted out over time. But, in the end, you want to recruit the right students from the United States and from all over the world.

Whenever I present this to alumni, they are eager and enthusiastic about being able to take advantage of the Global Centers. I was at the Global Center in Istanbul this fall and we had a reception, and alumni who had been in the area traveling or working

came to the reception. We're thrilled to be able to do this. The sense of having actual Columbia places all over the world that are open to you and are willing to embrace you is meaningful to most alumni. Then, on top of that, I'm sure that over time we will develop programs for alumni involving the Global Centers.

Can you talk about initiatives involving the centers, such as the Presidential Global Fellowships?

I've authorized two funds to help faculty and students utilize the Global Centers. One, which Provost John Coatsworth set up, is called the President's Global Innovation Fund. It underwrites groups of faculty working on global issues. About 20 groups received grants for this year, and we'll continue that and it will grow. That's for faculty, although there will be students involved in those projects, I'm sure. And then for students, I've asked [Dean] Jim Valentini to develop a program to help students use the Global Centers and be introduced to and work on the global issues of their time. We're still refining that, but Jim has made a lot of progress, having just announced the first such set of fellowships to students. This is for all undergraduates to apply. It is starting with grants to students for doing academic work in the summer after their first year. But it may also be expanded to provide funds for students in courses to, as I mentioned a while ago, just go off for a short period of time and do work related to their courses on a global basis.

What we're going to find is that as the technology of communication gets better and better, it's going to be easy to have courses where faculty and students are at any place on the globe at any given time and yet able to continue having a "course." It will just become easier and easier to do, and more and more important to do. And then these very significant centers may also become places where we might even offer some courses. But we'll see — that's in the future.



Columbia faculty and students tour the Great Wall in Beijing, China, in 2012 during the Global Scholars Program Summer Research Workshop, co-organized by the Columbia Global Center in Beijing.

"We need to have bases around the world that will help our faculty and students learn about the world." President Lee C. Bollinger

In summation, could you address the question of what it means to be a "global citizen"? Is it an awareness, is it a different way of thinking — what is a global citizen?

I think it's a somewhat difficult term. We're all citizens of our individual countries, and nobody is trying to say we should give up our sense of national identity and only become some kind of floating global citizen. One has to be careful about that. But to me it points in directions that are really important. I think you need a basic sense of the world, a kind of feel of the world. You have to have been places, seen cultures; you have to have experienced them both as a traveler but I think even more importantly as somebody thinking and learning about what the world is like. Then you have to be aware of what the issues are, what matters to people and what matters to the future of the world both in its physical sense and in terms of its peoples.

One hundred years ago, we could be very comfortable in individual states in the United States. The economy was quite local, people's lives were quite local, they didn't move around very much. Over the course of the 20th century, that all changed. We developed a national economy, people routinely moved around the United States and we developed issues that were national in scope — civil rights, environmental issues, financial — and everything became increasingly national, including my own field, freedom of speech and press. At the beginning of the century, individual states determined their own rules about free speech and free press, and by the end of the century it was a national First Amendment set of principles. Now that's all happening on a global basis, and we're just at the beginning of it. While I don't want to overstate it, I do feel that we're on the cusp of a much, much more integrated, interconnected universe. That means that it becomes increasingly unacceptable for someone to be an educated person and not to have been to other places around the world and to develop a sense of the world.

The person who in the past used to think of himself or herself as a citizen of California and then became a citizen of the United States, now has to become a global citizen. And students, young people, know this. Every time I have a meeting with them, a fireside chat, in my course or other ways, I ask these questions and it's clear that Columbia students know that their world is this bigger world, and they are really incredibly excited about experiencing it.

Global Students Find Home Away From Home at Columbia

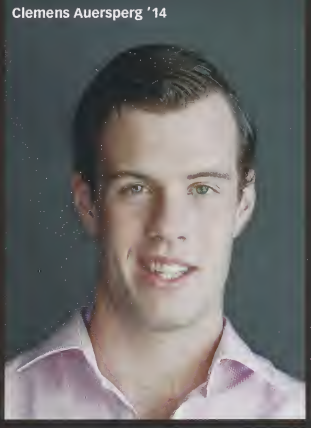
By Nathalie Alonso '08
Photos: Char Smullyan

"The emphasis on the humanities and the Core is really important. It makes you a well-rounded person."
Hamza Khan '14

Each year at Convocation, the ceremony in which President Lee C. Bollinger and the deans of the College and Engineering officially welcome incoming undergraduates to Columbia, the leaders of the New Student Orientation Program (NSOP) parade the flags of every state and country represented in the two student bodies in celebration of the schools' geographic — and by extension, cultural and religious — diversity.

The College Class of 2017 includes students from 47 countries, bringing


Andrea Viejo '15


Clemens Auersperg '14


Shen Qiu '16


Lingzi Zhuang '16


Onella Cooray '14


Wangari Mungai '14


Hamza Khan '14


Pria Narsiman '15


Gelila Bekele '16

the number of international students and nations represented in the College in the 2013–14 academic year to 729 and 83, respectively. At the university level, Columbia recently was ranked fifth among all U.S. institutions for having the largest population of international students, according to a report by The Institute of International Education. Their ranks include those who are non-U.S. citizens and non-U.S. permanent residents who need a visa to enter the country, as well as U.S. citizens and permanent residents who went to school outside of America.

Despite the students' range of backgrounds, their reasons for choosing the College fall under similar themes: admiration for the Core Curriculum and the school's commitment to teaching liberal arts, and New York's appeal as an inclusive, cosmopolitan city.

"The emphasis on the humanities and the Core is really important. It makes you a well-rounded person and lets you think in new ways," says Hamza Khan '14, from Lahore, Pakistan. "We didn't have any kind of liberal arts education [in Pakistan]. It was very focused on the hard sciences and math."

Khan, who is majoring in financial economics with a concentration in sustainable development, toured the campus prior to his senior year of high school while visiting relatives and cites his familiarity with New York City as an important factor in his decision. "I was comfortable with the city. If it was a city that was new to me, it might have been a different story," he says. "Everyone in New York is pretty accepting and aware of differences."

Like Khan, other students, including Pria Narsiman '15, from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and Andrea Viejo '15, from Monterrey, Mexico, attribute their initial impetus for pursuing an undergraduate education in the United States to a dearth of liberal arts colleges in their own countries and elsewhere.

Narsiman, who was 5 when her family relocated from her native Sydney to Kuala Lumpur, researched colleges in the United Kingdom and Australia but ultimately focused on the U.S. "because it offers more breadth," she says. "In Australia or the U.K., I would have had to decide what I wanted to do straight out of high school and would have only taken classes in that area."

Viejo came to a similar realization: "Back home, I would have been forced to choose my academic track during freshman year — let's say business or politics — and stick to those classes. I found it fascinating that [the College] offered me the opportunity to study the Koran, a text I would probably never be exposed to in Mexico, and music from around the world."

Narsiman and Viejo had visited New York City only briefly prior to starting their undergraduate careers, yet for both, the Big Apple's reputation as a city that embraces foreigners gave the College an edge over schools in college towns. "I wanted to live in a city because I'm from a big city in Australia and I live in a big city in Malaysia," says Narsiman, who is pursuing majors in neuroscience and behavior and French and Francophone studies. "I really wanted to go somewhere diverse."

Viejo, a political science and sociology major, echoes the sentiment and feels her decision is validated each time she goes to a Mexican restaurant or attends Catholic Mass in Spanish. "For me, it was location and the Core equally," she says. "For an international student, New York City is very welcoming because it's easy to find your niche."

In describing their transitions to the College, international students speak of the same emotions and concerns an American peer might express: the simultaneous excitement and trepidation of being away from home for the first time; the task of building new social lives while staying in touch with family and friends back home; and balancing heavy course loads with co-curricular activities. International students, however, often face additional hurdles that may include extensive travel times and the culture shock that comes with new academic and cultural norms. For some, there's also homesickness, the minutiae of purchasing a winter wardrobe for the first time and adjusting their palates to new flavors.

It took some time for Shen Qiu '16, from Shanghai, to get used to professor-student dynamics at Columbia, which he says are very different from China. "Here you can talk to the professor during class and after class, and people are much more open to discussion," he says. "In China, students think of teachers as being 'higher' than they are and are afraid of talking to teachers. Here, communication is facilitated by the free academic environment."

But while they may find their professors more accessible, Qiu and his friend, fellow Shanghai native Lingzi Zhuang '16, who transferred to the College after a year in Engineering, feel that they have had to work hard to bridge cultural differences with peers, particularly when it comes to casual interactions. Says Qiu, "When you are with a bunch of friends and they are talking about something that you have never heard of in popular culture, you sometimes feel isolated because you can't get involved in the conversation."

From the beginning, Zhuang felt at ease speaking English in academic settings but less so in social situations. "In the first few months, I felt uncomfortable," he says. "It was a painful realization that I needed to make an effort to be understood."

"Picking up on social nuances in terms of language and phrases" was a challenge early on for Onella Cooray '14, from Colombo, Sri Lanka. "When people asked, 'How are you?' I'd respond with an actual 'how' before I caught on that it was another cultural 'hi' and that people don't expect you to actually give an answer," she says.

As a first-year, Cooray, who is pursuing concentrations in earth and environmental sciences and sustainable development, suffered a common ailment: homesickness. Part of her yearning stemmed from her distaste for campus food, which she found bland compared to the spice of Sri Lankan cuisine. "I got my mom to ship over some of our condiments and I would sneak them into the dining hall and douse all the food with chili paste to make it palatable," recalls Cooray, who has mostly cooked for herself since her sophomore year.

Cooray's homesickness has so subsided that she spent all of last summer in Morningside Heights. She and Zhuang were the

"For an international student, New York City is very welcoming because it's easy to find your niche."
Andrea Viejo '15

student coordinators for the 2013 International Student Orientation Program (ISOP), a Columbia Student Affairs effort that takes place in the days leading up to NSOP. Begun in 2010, the program — which helps students transition to the U.S. and college life, and build community with one another — already has grown from 50 to about 100 students. Among other things, participants meet their academic advisers, attend sessions on American academic culture, are introduced to the Writing Center, explore New York City and can take advantage of a banking and cell phone fair.

ISOP was so central to Cooray's transition to the College in 2010 that she volunteered the following two years as an orientation leader prior to taking on the role of coordinator. One of her fondest memories of the College, she says, was being greeted by ISOP orientation leaders when she checked into the Hartley lounge as an incoming first-year. "I had a clueless 'no-idea-where-I-am-going' look on my face," she recalls. "It was really welcoming. I thought, 'Wow, I've finally arrived.'

"I definitely found it useful to move in earlier and then get to know a group of people," adds Cooray, who says she has made some of her most meaningful college relationships during ISOP. "I feel if I hadn't had the opportunity ISOP gave me, I would have been less able to cope socially."

A positive ISOP experience also prompted Gelila Bekele '16, from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to partake in the program this year as an orientation leader. "It created a strong bond among international students that we still have," says Bekele, who notes that the experience of being an international student in the College is powerful enough to kindle friendships among peers with different backgrounds. "We're in the same boat. Even though some of my friends might be from South America or Europe, we still have something in common: the fact that we're far away from home. [Other international students] you meet, especially during ISOP, become your family."

> "Home [is] not just a physical space now… It's finding friends on campus with whose experiences I can relate."
> Wangari Mungai '14

As venues to connect with peers of common backgrounds and shared interests, student clubs and associations also provide settings for international students to build support networks. An active member of the Organization of Pakistani Students since his first year, Khan considers cultural clubs "a great way to meet people and build lasting relationships.

"You get to know other people who are dealing with the same problems and they can help you. Now I'm a senior and I can help freshmen coming in," he says. "It's a great community. We're all really close and really good friends."

Wangari Mungai '14, an earth and environmental science major from Nairobi, Kenya, who was a student coordinator for ISOP in 2012, had never traveled outside of her country prior to starting her college career and was homesick her first year. The African Students Association (ASA), which she calls "a little home away from home," helped her adapt.

"It's definitely gotten easier through the years," says Mungai, who occasionally gets together with fellow ASA members to cook her favorite meals. "It comes with figuring out other ways to think of home; it's not just a physical space now. Home is being able to talk to my family. It's finding friends on campus with whose experience I can relate. It's thinking about home as something beyond a geographical space."

Two Christian student groups, Columbia Faith & Action and the Columbia chapter of the Veritas Forum, have given Zhuang "a family of friends who share the same faith and similar interests," while Qiu notes that his involvement with Columbia Model United Nations in New York "has taught me a lot about the interpersonal protocol in American culture."

Similarly, Clemens Auersperg '14, a heavyweight rower from Linz, Austria, who is majoring in history, found that the camaraderie of belonging to a sports team and the support of Columbia University Athletics eased his transition. "When I arrived, I didn't know anyone in New York, but being part of an athletics team, you immediately become friends with your teammates," he says. "Those fellow freshmen are still my closest friends at Columbia.

"The older members on the team were really supportive and helpful when it came to which classes to choose and how to balance schoolwork with athletics, which is not always easy. Being a varsity athlete has many benefits; you have a program behind you that tries to help you in any way possible."

More recently, support also has been added in the form of "International at Columbia," a series of informal monthly gatherings of international students held in John Jay Lounge, complete with snacks. Run through Columbia's International Students Programs and Services office, which was created in 2012, each session features upperclassmen facilitating a discussion of a topic relevant to life at Columbia and to the U.S. Topics have included dating and making friends on campus, and finding jobs and internships with a student visa.

In the spirit of giving back, some international students volunteer with the Global Recruitment Committee, which supports the Office of Undergraduate Admissions' recruiting efforts by hosting students in their residence halls during Days on Campus, visiting high schools in their home countries during winter and summer breaks, and expanding the reach of the Alumni Representative Committee by interviewing prospective students in places where not many alumni live.

Every year, GRC members also handwrite congratulatory postcards to international students who have been offered admission and encourage recipients to email them with questions. The memory of receiving such a postcard prompted Mungai to join the GRC. "In that excitement of having been accepted to Columbia, a written postcard was a very personal touch," she recalls. "When I heard about the GRC, I said, 'Oh! Those are the people who write the postcards.' I wanted to be part of that experience: to write postcards, to open my arms to international students who are not able to visit Columbia, to be a resource for them and to share my experience in the hope that it will make their experiences even better."

Nathalie Alonso '08, *from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball's official Spanish language website. She writes "Student Spotlight" for* CCT.

Study Abroad Grows in Popularity, Programs and Places

By Ted Rabinowitz '87

As recently as 20 years ago, the College's study abroad program could have been described in terms of the big three — Oxford, Cambridge and the University of Paris — when students went for a semester or a year to get a dose of a different culture and a needed change of scenery.

But in the past two decades the destinations for study abroad have increased greatly and the types of programs have expanded, giving students opportunities to have experiences from studying business in China to excavating ancient villas with their professors in Rome. And if they want to see Art Hum come alive in the halls of the Louvre and the soaring cathedral of Notre Dame, that still will be an option, too.

"We're in a much different place now," says Michael Pippenger, dean of undergraduate global programs and assistant v.p. of international education. "Partially, it's because of President Lee C. Bollinger's vision of the Columbia Global Centers. But it's also because more students feel a need for more global exposure, and heightened interest has allowed these programs to grow."

No matter the program, though, the value in having a global experience is the same, and it extends beyond the obvious benefits of language immersion and hands-on field study.

"We talk to students about being able to communicate cross-culturally, being able to handle ambiguity and to master content in a different context, understanding that there are multiple ways to solve complex, global problems," Pippenger says.

Pippenger, who came to Columbia in 2006 to develop an office of fellowship programs for the College (which expanded and later merged with the Office of Global Programs (OGP)), adds that there is a huge connection between winning a fellowship and study abroad. "If you study abroad, you're willing to take risks, be analytical, uproot yourself. This makes you a great fellowship candidate." Columbia has ranked in the top 10 for Fulbright Fellowship recipients for the last decade, a time frame that has also had success for students and alumni with other international fellowships such as Rhodes Scholarships, Marshall Scholarships, the Luce Scholars Program, the Churchill Scholarship and Gates Cambridge Scholarships.

The new approaches to study abroad come with an increase in the number of programs offered directly through OGP. (Other programs are offered in conjunction with foreign partners, or by third-party programs approved by the College.) Eight years ago,



PHOTO: COURTESY MELISSA CHIANG '14

Melissa Chiang '14 Blogs from Shanghai

Eight weeks, one internship and a lot of distant relatives

Last summer, Melissa Chiang '14 participated in the Center for Career Education's Columbia Experience Overseas program in Shanghai, where she was a quality and safety intern with United Family Healthcare. The following excerpts are from a blog that she kept about all aspects of the experience; it can be found at melissainshanghai.tumblr.com.

there were seven Columbia-run programs; today, the number has risen to 16, and more are on the way.

Columbia's partnerships with other universities have also multiplied, expanding to include the University of Hong Kong, Pontificia Universidade Catolica in Rio de Janeiro, China's Tsinghua University, Boğaziçi University in Istanbul and others. And while the United Kingdom and France are still student hot spots — with 41 and 37 College students studying in those countries, respectively, in the 2012–13 academic year — there has been a surge of interest in China, and more students are going to Brazil and South Africa as well.

All told, Columbia students currently can attend programs in 50 countries on six continents.

One of the biggest shifts in study abroad programming is the opportunity for students to gain on-site, hands-on experience. "Students want to be in the field with their professors," says Pippenger. "They respond to professors who are working *in situ*."

Because these offerings are popular with faculty as well as students, professors often approach OGP with field ideas they want to develop into full programs ranging from life sciences to urban planning.

Dustin Rubenstein, for example, an assistant professor in the Department of Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology, wanted to expand upon a three-week field course that he had run with Columbia students in Central Kenya since 2011. Pippenger liked the idea because OGP had never had a semester-long science program abroad. So, working in conjunction with Princeton, Rubenstein and Pippenger designed a curriculum, and students in the program now live at a Kenyan research center, observing animals and plants. Student projects have included using RNA from starlings to study the birds' kin structures, analyzing birdsong for form and function, and tracking the prevalence of avian malaria in local bird populations.

OGP also has worked on the humanities end of the spectrum. Francesco de Angelis, an associate professor in the Department of Art History and Archaeology, is one of the lead archaeologists on the current excavation of the Villa Adriana (Hadrian's Villa) in the town of Tivoli, just east of Rome. "He wanted to take Columbia students on a dig and teach a seminar on archaeology preservation and conservation," Pippenger says.

As a result, this summer Columbians will be exploring the home of one of Rome's Five Good Emperors, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and learning firsthand the fundamentals of archaeology. These include excavating, interpreting finds on-site, logging discoveries, analyzing stratigraphic sections and assessing ceramic artifacts from the dig, among other things.

Other Columbians studying abroad are looking for immersion in another culture. A traditional semester or year abroad offer this, of course, but OGP is creating other options. Among these are immersive programs that involve a shorter time frame (a summer semester, for instance) and are designed to increase students' participation in their host societies.

> In the past two decades the destinations for study abroad have increased greatly and the types of programs have expanded.

Ethnicity vs. Nationality

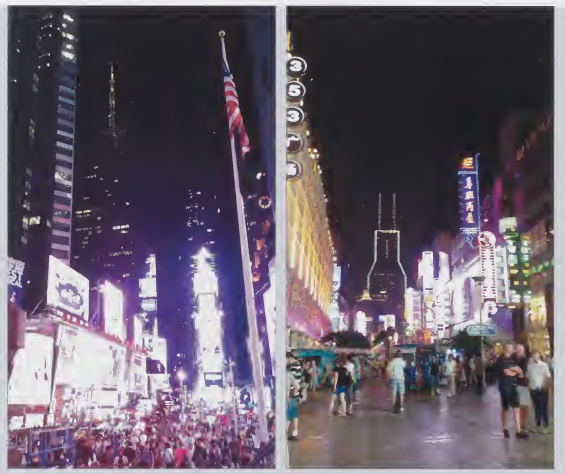
Multiple times during this summer in Shanghai, I have encountered someone — a cab driver, a waiter or waitress, and even a few random people on the street — who is confused by me. It usually starts out innocently, a simple observation of my accented Chinese and a question about my origin. That's when it gets weird.

I answer the question as any American would, with "I'm American." The response is what isn't anticipated: "You don't look American."

No matter how many times I hear that, I am at once curious and annoyed.

On one level, it makes sense. I am in a part of the world where the immediate association between ethnicity and nationality is not wrong very often. A similar physical appearance usually means a similar place of origin, similar life experiences, and similar linguistic and cultural knowledge. I can understand and appreciate the worldview from which these words are emerging.

Yet, on the other hand, that does not change the fact that, deep down, I consider myself American through and



Chiang calls this "Close, But No Cigar." Or, alternatively, "There's No Place Like Home." Left, Times Square, New York City. Right, Nanjing East Road, Shanghai.
PHOTOS: MELISSA CHIANG '14

For Tabitha Cohen '15, a Kluge Scholar who is studying East Asian languages and cultures and had always been interested in China, Columbia's Summer Business Chinese and Internship Program in Shanghai offered an ideal opportunity. Zhongqi Shi, a lecturer of Chinese in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, is the director. "He's hands down the best teacher I've had at Columbia," Cohen says.

The program begins with six weeks of intensive instruction in business Chinese including practice with a language partner and speakers who explain the realities of working in China; then follows a four-week internship with a Chinese business (Cohen was placed with developer Guangpu Real Estate). Cohen also had to sign an agreement that she would speak only Chinese during the 10 weeks of the program, which she took between her sophomore and junior years.

"Interning isn't well known or popular in China," says Cohen. "So the fact that American students are able to intern in China is incredible." (It's remarkable to other people as well — the program has been mentioned in *Newsweek*.) Today, Cohen is putting her experience to use through her job with Bergdorf Goodman; while attending the College, she works part-time translating for the store's Chinese customers and explaining their shopping customs to the staff.

For Domenic DeSocio '14, the immersion was a junior year spent in Germany, studying in an educational environment with emphases different from those in the United States. Through the Berlin Consortium for German Studies (a year-abroad program in which Columbia participates with other top-ranked universities) DeSocio enrolled directly in the Freie Universität Berlin and lived as a German, not an American exchange student (although with extra instruction in German language and daily life). "People who go only for a couple of months, they have a mindset that they're Americans in a foreign culture," DeSocio says. "But if you go for a year, it's not an extended vacation. You're there to become a member of the culture."

DeSocio saw a dramatic difference in the classroom. "In Germany, the professor gives you one assignment at the end that sums up the semester. During the semester, the professor doesn't check up on you. You have the option of being fully involved in the course or not. You do it for yourself, not for the grade."

The immersion helped DeSocio become more independent. He cites learning how to deal with health insurance and taxes as examples. "I did two paid internships, so I had to fill out tax forms as a non-citizen," he says.

> "Students want to be challenged. … They want a transformative experience, and often they get it."
> Michael Pippenger

While fieldwork and immersion programs are both popular, interdisciplinary study abroad is OGP's fastest-growing segment. This reflects a nationwide trend; the number of interdisciplinary bachelor's has more than quadrupled since 1973, according to the National Center for Educational Statistics. "Thirty years ago it was one country, one specialty," says Pippenger. "Now more students are looking for interdisciplinary projects. We used to think, 'You go to England for a year. That's your study.' Now we're looking at shorter-term summer programs with multiple sites."

through. Especially growing up near the immense cultural diversity of New York City, my view of a "typical" American is perhaps more a vague cloud of qualities rather than a defined look, experience or nugget of knowledge. So, viscerally, I am gutted; I want to say, "Americans can look like a LOT of different things!" or "Well, I am American, so therefore, I look American. Simple as that."

Alas, I keep my more reflexive reactions on the back burner but they do percolate in my thoughts. I know I have my own worldview and others have their own. Yet, there are things I wonder about and cannot know: Does it bother Chinese people that I more closely associate myself with those who look so differently from me than with them? Do they resent my parents and grandparents for leaving this country, or do they admire them? How did the rest of the world become so accustomed to Asian presences while Asia still treats those who look different as both lowly and godly, at the same time?

As much as I miss the cultural diversity of America and its normal status, being here in Shanghai has brought out these questions in a way that staying at home in the States never could.

For that, I am grateful.

And I have lots to think about.

10:02 a.m. July 24, 2013

Baozi, Bubble Tea, and Other Goodies

I thought it would be fine.

I thought I was already used to all of it.

I thought that I liked it.

Alas, I was wrong.

This is a blog post about food.

This is actually less of a blog post and more of a (hopefully amusing) reference dictionary from my experience with Chinese culinary life:

Baozi: buns, cheap and tasty; you'll probably get pork no matter what meat you ask for

Breakfast: could be buns, fried dumplings, hot soup, rice porridge, fried dough or anything of the sort; usually rather oily and served with hot soy bean milk

Bubble tea: readily available, use makeshift Chinese to ask for tapioca balls because you will never remember what they are called no matter how many times people tell you (hand motions help, too, as

He names the Global Scholars Program Summer Research Workshop, a collaboration among the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, OGP and the Columbia Global Centers, as one example. "Professors take students to two or more sites for a particular topic in the social sciences, like the rise of the megacity in Asia. They do coursework there, and then return to Columbia for a 'capstone' class that allows them to process what they've learned," he says. This past summer, the program sent students to Beijing and Santiago to study comparative economic development in Asia and Latin America.

Another example is the joint summer program Columbia conducts with Boğaziçi University in Istanbul. Combining coursework in history, Byzantine studies and urban planning with fieldwork and daily excursions centered on conservation, archiving and mapping, the program focuses on the artistic and urban history of Istanbul.

For all the additions to Columbia's study abroad programming, demand for Columbia's traditional year-abroad programs remains strong and OGP is committed to maintaining those programs. "It's important that we continue to grow the longstanding programs that have been hallmarks of Columbia global education," says Pippenger.

There have, however, been shifts in emphasis. "We're encouraging Paris students to consider directed research within the French university system," says Pippenger. "And we've worked hard with the art history and Italian departments to offer more classes in Venice, and to get Italian students from Ca' Foscari University of Venice, another partner, to take those courses alongside our own students as well."

Maria Gimenez Cavallo '14, who has been "obsessed by Paris" since she started to learn French as a high school freshman, felt the pull of Columbia's traditional programs early. "When I was applying to Columbia, I knew that it had the Reid Hall Paris program," she says. "I wanted to come to Columbia anyway, but the program was a plus."

Once she was in France, serendipity kicked in — as it is meant to in these programs. Cavallo's love of film hadn't found much scope in New York but in Paris she met *cineastes* on her wavelength. "Buster Keaton is one of my heroes," she says, "but at Columbia, we spent four hours on him. In Paris he was the subject of an entire class.

"I told the head of the program how I loved movies, and she encouraged me to be a critic," Cavallo continues. "Another director of the program helped me become an intern after I had knocked on every film door in Paris and been refused. The people with whom I interned took me on set and into the editing room so I got to see how a production company actually works. I didn't realize how complicated it was."

Cavallo's curriculum included self-directed study, which she used to write a screenplay. She attended the Cannes International Film Festival and joined a sit-in staged by one of her film professors when he was fired from his position at a movie theater. "My favorite period in French cinema is the '60s, and it was like Paris in May '68 is still alive now."

Cavallo's study abroad was the fulfillment of a dream; for Cohen, it was a unique opportunity to gain powerful business skills; and DeSocio used his year of study to become more independent and discover new academic cultures. But for all of them, it was life-altering. "Students want to be challenged to experience something radically different from what they have encountered on campus," says Pippenger. "They want a transformative experience, and often they get it."

Ted Rabinowitz '87 *is a copywriter and author. His first novel,* The Wrong Sword, *was published last year by Musa Books under the pen name Ted Mendelssohn; the sequel will be out next year.*

does pointing to the English menu)

Chopsticks: it's all in the technique. When all else fails, STAB.

Dumplings, frozen: yummy, cheap and easy to make. Get the kind with corn.

Dumplings, soup: tasty but will squirt boiling hot liquid all over you if you're not careful or don't know how to use chopsticks; come in thin cover and thick cover varieties

Fruit shops: everywhere and relatively cheap; take advantage of them!

Fuyuan: means waiter; say it, yell it, sign it, skywrite it

Hot pot: a good way to freak out people who have never had it, especially if you order tripe; FYI you will never feel full

(that) Japanese (place): get the Udon noodles!

(that) Thai (place): get anything. It's all good.

KFC: serves breakfast, also serves rice; may be bigger in China than in the States



Food pagoda, found at Mr. Pancake House in the Jingan District of Shanghai.
PHOTO: MELISSA CHIANG '14

Napkins: be prepared and bring your own

Nature Valley bars: that one versatile snack that you decided to pack that you have alternately eaten for breakfast, dinner, snack and random sustenance but will avoid for at least a month after getting back to the States

Noodles: EVERYWHERE. But actually, there are approximately 10 noodle shops on your block alone.

Oreos: So many options! Including inside out, birthday cake, various fruits, and half-and-halfs.

Pocky: really good and should have had more of it

Starbucks: it's more watery here

Vegetables: always cooked, never raw (NEVER)

Western food: there's plenty of it in Shanghai — Mexican, crepes, burgers, Italian, etc.

7:08 a.m. July 29, 2013

For Global Alumni, Columbia Made a World of Difference

By Ted Rabinowitz '87



Ashleigh Silver '04 (right) and friend Ambica Shiringi celebrate their newly minted British citizenship in summer 2013.
PHOTO: COURTESY ASHLEIGH SILVER '04

Raised in Southern Indiana, Mark Minton '67 couldn't predict how he would be affected by the diversity he encountered at Columbia. His experiences led him from Morningside Heights to Japan, South Korea and finally Mongolia, where he served for three years as U.S. ambassador. He is now president of the Korea Society, a nonprofit dedicated to building greater cultural and social ties between the United States and South Korea.

Ashleigh Silver '04 grew up on an Ohio farm. She studied languages at Columbia and has worked for the last six years in London, where she is one of the most multilingual employees — speaking French, Spanish and Italian — at her steel-trading company, and travels for business throughout Europe.

Vikas Anand '11 was born on Long Island, "a New Yorker through and through." He developed his global interest in his first years at Columbia by interacting with "the most diverse

student body in the world. Just talking to someone who went to Taipei for a student competition blew my mind," he says. Since graduating, Anand has been a business analyst in Mumbai; he plans to work in Singapore or London next.

Columbia alumni are scattered across the globe like dandelion seeds. They have taken root in virtually every major city in the world, from Hong Kong, to Capetown, to Amsterdam, to Santiago; they have made their careers in places as far from Morningside Heights as Athens, São Paulo and Ulan Bator, Mongolia. When asked what drives the diaspora, global alumni point to the unique combination of a diverse student body, a famously cosmopolitan city and a rigorous liberal arts tradition grounded in the Core Curriculum.

Some alumni can point to a single class or professor who ignited their interest in global lives. For Minton, it was a survey course in East Asian studies, "a sort of second year of Contemporary Civilization," he says. "It had its own textbook of readings, the way that CC did at the time." Minton was so impressed that he continued in the department, taking classes with Columbia legends such as Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, '53 GSAS, the John Mitchell Mason Professor Emeritus and Provost Emeritus; Donald Keene '42, '49 GSAS, University Professor Emeritus and the Shincho Professor Emeritus of Japanese Literature; and Gari Ledyard, the King Sejong Professor Emeritus of Korean Studies and Director Emeritus of the Center for Korean Research.



Bruce Steinberg '78's career in media includes the creation of two TV channels in the United Kingdom.
PHOTO: DEBORAH HURFORD BROWN

For many Columbians, globalism was the natural outcome of living on a multicultural campus in a pluralistic city.

When Minton was drafted after graduation, "I assumed I would just be issued a rifle and helmet and sent into off into combat" in Vietnam, he says; but when he told the Army's assignment bureau of his background in Asian studies, he was sent to learn Japanese at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, and stationed in Japan. From there, a career in the Foreign Service was a short step. "It was like a set of dominoes," says Minton. "Now that I think about it, the first and decisive clues as to my career happened at Columbia College."

U.S. diplomat Chris Dell '78 also points to an inspiring class for his career choice. "I went to Columbia as a pre-law and thought about going into politics. But taking Poli Sci 101, I decided I didn't want to be like all the other people in the room." Then, in his junior year, he took a course in strategic studies with Warner Schilling, and he was hooked.

Schilling helped to get him an internship at the State Department, after which Dell won a Euretta J. Kellett Fellowship to Oxford. He joined the State Department in 1981, and he has since been posted to countries from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe. He is currently looking forward to a new private-sector career that builds on his experience in Portuguese-speaking Africa.

Of course, some alumni enrolled with the intention of focusing on international subjects. Michael J. Novielli '03, '09 TC grew up in Riverhead, Long Island. Thanks to an inspiring social studies teacher in ninth grade, Novielli was fascinated by Asia and "Columbia's Asian studies program was a primary consideration in choosing the school," he says. Through Columbia's Summer Language Program in Beijing, Novielli studied Mandarin in Taiwan and Beijing, and (like Minton) studied East Asian cultures with de Bary; he now works in Beijing, where he is co-founder and co-CEO of Due West, an educational company for Chinese students.

Then there are alumni like Silver, who came to Columbia because of its position as New York's Ivy and who chose to explore global studies on her own and used Columbia's language and international classes to achieve her goals. "My dad had always thought it was a waste of time to study other languages, but visiting Dijon the summer of my freshman year changed my mind. To communicate with the locals you needed to know French." She studied Spanish, Italian and advanced French at Columbia, and now uses all of them in her job.

Novielli also praises the quality of Columbia's language departments. "I had my strongest faculty relationships with my language instructors, like C.P. Sobelman and Hailong Wang."

For many Columbians, globalism was the natural outcome of living on a multicultural campus in a pluralistic city.

Reza Vishkai '85, '86E, a managing director of Insight Investments in London, fled Iran for the U.S.



U.S. Ambassador to Mongolia Mark Minton '67 with the head monk of the Amarbayasgalant Monastery in 2008; they are flanked by Kevin Nolan '10 GS (right), who was interning at the U.S. Embassy in Mongolia, and a Peace Corps volunteer (left).
PHOTO: COURTESY MARK MINTON '67

in 1979 with his family. He attended a boarding school in New Jersey and, when he began college, found a campus that was matter-of-fact about students from abroad. "Columbia is a very international university," notes Vishkai. "I might have experienced it more because international students tend to hang out together."

Anand, who for two years was a business analyst and strategist for Mahindra & Mahindra in Mumbai, notes that growing up on Long Island "was fantastic but limited; I wanted to get out of Long Island's monoculture even before Columbia … to be in a place where I was exposed to a lot more."

He jumped into student life with both feet, joining extracurricular groups such as the Columbia University Bhangra Society and becoming executive secretary of the Activities Board at Columbia. It gave him a chance to see how student groups interacted with one another. "While students of the same culture did stick together, they were definitely open, and you could hang [with them] and see what was happening," he says.

Anand also felt enlightened by student political and cultural activity. "Seeing protests for and against the same issue at the same time, seeing a Japanese event on The Steps and a Caribbean event at Lerner at the same time, it was all very diverse."

For Lara Barazi '90, managing director of Kefalonia Fisheries in Greece, diversity came with her living arrangements. She had attended high school in Connecticut and found it "homogenous." At Columbia, one of her roommates was a ballerina and two others were from the Dominican Republic; the nearby neighborhood, meanwhile, was different from anything she had known. "Coming from a sheltered background, then coming to Harlem … I was in a volunteer program where you could be a teacher's assistant in the local high schools. The kids had a reality that I had never encountered," she says.

Michael Camacho '05, who grew up in the suburbs of South Brunswick, N.J., credits Columbia with giving him an "openness to other cultures" that helps him as an investment manager in Amsterdam. "I became involved in the Student Council, and through that made connections to people with international outlooks, and I've reconnected with them through the years."

Columbia's cosmopolitan atmosphere also comes from attracting students outside the U.S. American alumni are often unaware of the drawing power of Columbia's reputation elsewhere in the world. "The Columbia brand in Asia is a gold standard for education," says Minton. "Applying to Columbia is an aspiration for a lot of Korean and Chinese students."

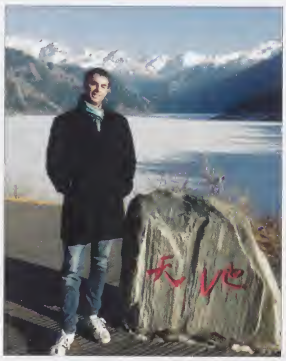
That was the experience of Conrad Lung '72, the 2009 Hamilton Medal awardee and an international entrepreneur in clothing, manufacturing and investment banking. Lung turned down Hong Kong University, which would have ensured a career for life in Hong Kong, to pursue the College. "[When I applied] Columbia was better known in Hong Kong and China than Harvard or Yale," he says. "It was ranked No. 1."

> In the end, most alumni discussions about Columbia circle back to the Core and the liberal arts tradition.

Alumni volunteers outside the U.S. work hard to enhance that reputation. Anand and Lung helped establish and run local branches of the Columbia Alumni Association. Minton was an advocate for Columbia in South Korea, China, Mongolia and Japan. In Brazil, Diana Nasser '87 built a high-powered team of applicant interviewers for the local Alumni Representative Committee, helping to raise acceptances from one or two a year to 14 or 15.

Alumni also point to Columbia's network of Global Centers as a valuable resource. "The Mumbai alumni association was connected with the Global Center and coordinated with it for events," says Anand. He adds that many of the center's staff during his time in India were also Columbia alumni. "The Studio X space in Mumbai, [which is] the architectural program's physical space in the city, helped create a strong presence there, far stronger than the other Ivies."

Stephen Jansen '91, who was president of the Columbia University Club of London for seven years (2004–11; he was a CFO in the city's finance sector), notes that the Global Centers aren't the "satellite campuses" created by some universities. "Satellites create issues for academic freedom in some countries," he says, whereas "Global Centers … provide a place for research and projects to be done. They're based on study and projects, not a curriculum."



Michael Novielli '03 in Xinjiang, a province in northwestern China.
PHOTO: COURTESY MICHAEL NOVIELLI '03

In the end, most alumni discussions about Columbia circle back to the Core and the liberal arts tradition.

The Core helped some international students to understand their own cultures more fully. "When I left Hong Kong," says Lung, "I turned my back on everything that was Chinese. My overwhelming belief was that everything in America was great." But at Columbia, he found his worldview changing. "Taking the Core, I didn't just learn about the Western tradition; through it I came to understand my own tradition," he says. He began to see the parallels between the Western and the Chinese traditions. "*The Odyssey* is like the Chinese epic *Journey to the West*, a process of self-discovery, learning and maturity. In *The Iliad*, everyone has a role to play, just like in Ancient China. You can see the conflict between the assigned roles and the search for power."

Many alumni see Columbia as having taught them how to become lifelong learners — a vital skill when living abroad. Barazi moved to Greece with her husband in 1996, and ultimately took over his family's aquaculture farm. "I came in knowing nothing — no Greek, no aquaculture experience and no scientific background, but the Columbia training helped me to learn the business, to understand how to learn what I didn't know and not to be intimidated." It also helped put her on an equal cultural footing with her European neighbors and business partners.



Diplomat Chris Dell '78 credits Columbia with inspiring his career choice. Left to right: Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel, Gen. David Rodriguez, Robert Maggi, Vice President Joe Biden, Dell and Secretary of State John Kerry in Afghanistan in 2008.
PHOTO: JON SILSON

Lung sees that training as akin to intellectual property: "Liberal [arts] education is becoming a global commodity that everyone will need to train their young people, and you don't have to look further than the Core Curriculum and the humanities for that."

For some alumni, the College's emphasis on critical thinking was crucial. "The Core gives me a level of curiosity and a critical attitude toward even well-accepted ideas that's formed my mindset and has helped in my career," says Camacho.

Some alumni see this as part of the humanist emphasis on exploration and free inquiry. "Columbia gave me my first opportunity to explore what excited me," says Bruce Steinberg '78, whose career in media and business includes the creation of two TV channels in the United Kingdom. "It gave me a thirst for knowledge and experience, and opened up my world."

Many alumni see Columbia as having taught them how to become lifelong learners — a vital skill when living abroad.

For many alumni with international ties, the advantages of the Core become even clearer when compared with the education provided in the countries where they have lived and worked.

Lung sees the current educational model in China as oriented toward test scores and rankings to the exclusion of all else. "Chinese students think if they have a high score in TOEFL and a high SAT, that means their education is good. But they're not prepared for American education, they're just good at taking tests … they are as bright, and more disciplined, but they are less entrepreneurial, less contextual."

Novielli echoes Lung; he founded Due West to teach local students the "soft skills" not being provided by the Chinese system. "Their system is entirely test based; the Gaokao college placement exam determines everything. The system doesn't emphasize these life skills, and the students are too busy to develop skills like time-management and leadership."

Both Barazi and Linnea Hincks '10 (who grew up in Sweden and is a press secretary in Sweden's Office of the Minister for EU Affairs) note that the European system is limited as well, with an emphasis on early career specialization and a cultural education that extends only to the national culture; there is much less exposure, however, to the concepts of multiculturalism, pluralism and non-Western cultures. Minton extends that critique to education in the U.S.

"It's distressing to see all the commentary assuming a strict one-to-one connection between education and career," Minton says. "That's an impoverished way of doing it. Columbia didn't give me a vocation. The genius of the Columbia education is that it affects the thinking of a student and opens doors through which a student can walk to his or her career. And this approach is the correct one. It's a different way, a more subtle way.

"It's the Columbia way."

Ted Rabinowitz '87 *is a copywriter and author. His first novel,* The Wrong Sword, *was published last year by Musa Books under the pen name Ted Mendelssohn; the sequel will be out next year.*

Governing the World

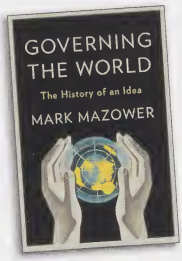
How global government has evolved from utopian concept to failed ideal



PHOTO: SARAH LEE

Mark Mazower, the Ira D. Wallach Professor of World Order Studies, chairs the Department of History. An Oxford graduate, he concentrates on modern Greece, 20th-century Europe and international history. His books include Dark Continent: Europe's Twentieth Century *and* Hitler's Empire: How the Nazis Ruled Europe, *which won the L.A. Times Book Prize for History in 2009. His most recent book is* Governing the World: The History of an Idea, *from which the following excerpt is taken.*

Governing the World *is a landmark study of the idea of world governance from idealistic concept to often benighted reality. Nineteenth-century internationalists imagined "a movement of cooperation among nations and their peoples," as Mazower writes, with thinkers as diverse as Jeremy Bentham (who invented the word "international"), Karl Marx and Giuseppe Mazzini contributing sketched-out theories. The 20th century saw real-world attempts at global government in the shape of the League of Nations and its successor, the UN, but the geopolitical version of "cosmic harmony," long dreamed of, never materialized. In the closing section of* Governing the World, *Mazower studies the outlines and fissures of this failed ideal.*



Rose Kernochan '82 Barnard



Mazower writes, "International legislatures have never lived up to the hope of nineteenth-century internationalists." At right, members of the League of Nations' Disarmament Conference struggle with the difficulties of peace enforcement in Geneva in 1924.
PHOTO: © BETTMANN/CORBIS



That international institutions may not be internally democratic in their workings has been known for some time and does not appear particularly surprising. They are, after all, chiefly executive bureaucracies, and mostly their most powerful members like them that way. International legislatures have never lived up to the hope of nineteenth-century internationalists, and as the fate of the European Parliament and the UN General Assembly demonstrate, they are unlikely to make much impact on the twenty-first.

What does seem novel, in historical terms, is the collapsing importance of the public bodies that give national sovereignty meaning and the way that organs of international government and regulation have come to assail the internal legitimacy, capacity, and cohesion of individual states. They are not actually turning democracies into dictatorships — few people believe in dictatorships anymore — although the turn to Putin in Russia suggests such a drift is possible. But they are certainly hollowing out representative institutions and curtailing their capacity to act. Bodies that were once designed to foster sovereignty are now recast to curtail it. And this is not merely the curtailing of autonomy that is always implicit when states decide to join international organizations and respect their rules; it is the consequence of major changes in those rules themselves. "The pattern of influence and decision-making that rules the world has an increasingly marginal connection with sovereignty," notes Koskenniemi in a recent article.

This multifaceted erosion of sovereignty is a momentous change that has been based upon a radical alteration in attitudes to the state and bureaucracy over the past thirty years. In its various nineteenth-century incarnations, after all, internationalism was preeminently a movement to restore sovereign power to the peoples of the world, and those who governed in their name. Its approach to the nation-state and its institutions was almost entirely positive. The originary moment of 1919 saw the goal of the League of Nations as a world made "safe for democracy," a goal understood — in an imperial idiom — as a society of sovereign polities. After 1945, the United Nations promoted the creed of sovereignty more widely, more adamantly, and more deeply. Nazism's assault on the sovereignty of small nations was repudiated and in Europe democracy was restored; colonialism's denial of sovereign rights around the world was also castigated. The state was rendered sacrosanct, international boundaries were mutually recognized in Asia, Africa, and Europe, and the meaning of democracy itself was broadened to "promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom" (in the words of the UN Charter). International institutions enabled states to survive and flourish, and as civil services expanded rapidly, states enabled their citizens.

In the construction of this system of sovereign nations, no power played a more important role than the United States. Washington never had complete control of the process, of course, and there were compromises on all sides. After 1945, welfare states grew faster and economic nationalizations went farther across the globe than American policymakers might have wished, for example, and trade liberalization proceeded more slowly. But these points of disagreement and tension were not decisive. The American Century at its apogee coincided with the heyday of national planning in the Third World and the welfare state in Europe. American foundations funded roads, medical services, libraries, and schools, and American social sciences — from mid-century macroeconomics to modernization theory — provided the legitimation for this expansion of state capacity around the world. Countries gradually became reintegrated in a global trade network, but capital movements remained restricted, and in general people made money from producing and exchanging goods rather than from money itself. As late as 1971, it was assumed that conditionality would not work if demanded by the IMF since client states would permit no interference in their internal affairs.

And then, between the mid-1970s and the early 1980s, all of this changed, as the United States ceased to support a version of liberalism embedded in strong domestic institutions. Confronted with an unforeseen challenge to reshape the rules of international order in a way that gave priority to the needs of the developing world — the Third World's New International Economic Order — the United States reacted by moving against the old midcentury conception of the enabling state on several fronts: international human rights activism saw the state as tyrant and mobilized global civil society against it; the World Bank and the IMF exploited the crisis-prone character of the new financialization of the world to redraw the boundaries of public and private sectors in vulnerable debtor countries. As governance replaced government, welfare nets frayed, and income and wealth inequality rose sharply. Formal structures disintegrated and informal economies — black markets, smuggling, and crime networks — flourished, leaving only the ubiquitous concept of the "failed state" itself as implicit acknowledgment that states really were rather important. In turn, the threat of state failure rationalized invasions and occupations that returned swaths of Africa and parts of the Balkans to rule by international executive. This was in no sense a reversion to the emancipatory perspectives of mid-nineteenth-century internationalists but rather the crafting of a "leaner, meaner state" in one country after another across the world, dissolving society in the name of the individual, using international organizations as the handmaidens and new paradigms — the efficient market hypothesis, the Responsibility to Protect — to provide intellectual rationalization.

If the corrosive impact of this process on the idea of sovereignty itself has not much bothered mainstream American observers, it is partly because it has been moralized and turned into something virtuous, and partly because it has happened less there than anywhere else. The United States remains *the* exceptional power, able more than any other over the past half century to exempt itself from otherwise universally binding international commitments and obligations, its untrammeled sovereignty jealously guarded by Congress. Combining the language of universalism with the status of the exception has allowed American values and influence to spread at relatively little internal cost in terms of policy constraint. And this freedom has actually increased with the shift from a world of formal treaty obligations — a world that had always made Congress unhappy — to one of informal rules and norms, which the United States itself has been well positioned to craft. Only in the fears on the American right of eroding sovereignty and the implausible specter of world government do we get a glimmering of what the stakes may be when the American era finally ends.

Beyond the borders of the United States, on the other hand, it has been far more self-evident that international institutions and norms have developed into means of curtailing sovereignty rather than enhancing it, trends that could not but affect the standing of international bodies themselves and undercut their ability to command continued support. The real-world challenges mount around us in the shape of climate change, financial instability, poverty, crime, and disease. With the WTO's Doha

Round paralyzed and the World Bank chastened, the IMF incapable of helping to rectify the global imbalances that threaten the world economy, and no single agency able to coordinate the response to global warming, the institutions of international governance stand in urgent need of renovation. Yet the fundamental nineteenth-century insight that effective internationalism rests on effective nationalism remains pertinent. Voters around the world still see their primary allegiance to their national state rather than to any large polity, a fact that reflects the continuing role of the state as primary purveyor of public goods but that many international bodies are loath to acknowledge.

Now we are on the verge of a new era, and as Western predominance approaches an end, the prognosticators speculate on what will come next. Some American commentators seem particularly anxious at their country's possible loss of influence. But taking a more detached view and in more formal terms, the mere fact that some states are gaining strength as others lose it says little. And so far as China in particular is concerned, it has much to gain and little of any consequence to lose from participating in a system designed to favor leading nations. Like any great power, it will use these institutions to further its own ends, but like its predecessors it will not always prevail. Thus there is no reason to think that the shift in the global balance need of itself mark the end of the international institutions established in the Anglo-American ascendancy.

Indeed from the perspective of the question of sovereignty, positive as well as negative consequences may emerge from the decline in American and European financial and political clout. As long ago as 1995, the British political economist Susan Strange argued that "the only way to remove the present, hegemonic, do-nothing veto on better global governance, is to build, bit by bit, a compelling opposition based on European-Japanese cooperation, but embracing Latin Americans, Asians and Africans." The prospective lineup now looks different but the point remains valid. The rising powers, China above all, have little liking for the IMF, at least in its older incarnation, and attach much greater importance to the idea of preserving sovereignty and some space for domestic political discretion. If their influence grows, the institutions the United States created may be brought back under new direction to the principles that originally animated them. A broader array of voices and perspectives will enrich the rather rigid forms of economic thinking that have predominated since the 1970s.

Getting the institutional architecture right is the subject of endless position papers and reform proposals. But there are two kinds of more fundamental change that will need to take place too. In the current crisis, politicians have essentially acted as underwriters, essential but subordinate to the dictates of communities of financial market makers they hesitate to contradict. More generally, the politicians have become policymakers, who listen in the first place to private interests and their lobbyists and try to adjudicate among them. Time will show whether they are any longer capable of governing. If that fails to happen, the responsibility will not be theirs alone. One of the reasons for the midcentury popularity of the state and sovereignty was that both had proved themselves in extreme circumstances. Twentieth-century total wars were fought by states that mobilized entire societies around shared perils and experiences. By creating models of equity, solidarity, and sacrifice, they transformed public attitudes in ways that endured into peacetime. Without a comparable transformation in our own views about the nature of government, the public good and the role of the state, without our developing a new kind of faith in our own collective capacity to shape the future, there is no real incentive for our politicians to change. They may not be trusted by their electorates — polls show levels of trust plumbing new lows — but they have no reason to care so long as this lack of trust does not translate into mobilization, resistance, and sustained pressure for reform.

To the nineteenth-century internationalists with whom this book began, the future conjured up a new dispensation for mankind, a dispensation they looked forward to with a confidence based upon their control over a universe of facts: hence Bentham's vision of a perfect system of law that depended on the accumulation of all useful knowledge, or Karl Marx's path to a communist future through the history of capitalism's past. To twentieth-century institution builders from [Jan] Smuts to [Franklin D.] Roosevelt, from Robert Jackson to Walt Rostow, the future could be planned and tackled with foresight on behalf of entire communities and nations, perhaps even for the world as a whole. Today, when the primacy of the fact is challenged by the Web — a recent article hails the fact's death — the future, more important than ever, has been privatized, monetized, and turned into a source of profit. An entire corporate sector is dedicated to commodifying and modeling it; our financial markets in general take the future as the determinant of present values in a way that simply was not true a century ago. No one now feels the burden of an essential but unknowable future more acutely than the stockbroker and trader. But this money-driven individualistic future has crowded out an older vision of what the public good might look like.

In the ongoing atomization of society, citizens and classes have both vanished as forces for change and given way to a world of individuals.

In the ongoing atomization of society, citizens and classes have both vanished as forces for change and given way to a world of individuals, who come together as consumers of goods or information, and who trust the Internet more than they do their political representatives or the experts they watch on television. Governing institutions today have lost sight of the principle of politics rooted in the collective values of a *res publica*, even as they continue to defend the "civilization of capital." As for the rituals of international life, these are now well established. The world's heads of state flock annually to the United Nations General Assembly. There are discussions of reform and grandiose declarations of global targets, which mostly go unmet. Politicians, journalists, bankers, and businessmen make their pilgrimage to the heavily guarded Alpine precinct of Davos, seeking to confirm through this triumph of corporate sponsorship that a global ruling elite exists and that they belong to it. Our representatives continue to hand over power to experts and self-interested self-regulators in the name of efficient global governance while a skeptical and alienated public looks on. The idea of governing the world is becoming yesterday's dream.

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Alumni News

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Toomas Hendrik Ilves '76, president of the Republic of Estonia, addresses a Low Library audience on September 23 in conjunction with the Columbia University World Leaders Forum.

PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

MESSAGE FROM CCAA PRESIDENT KYRA TIRANA BARRY '87

Entrepreneurship Is Thriving on Campus And Across the Alumni Community

As Columbia College Alumni Association president, I joined many other College alumni volunteers at the Columbia Alumni Leaders Weekend October 11–12. We set a record for attendance at the event and, I would argue, for engagement, creativity and passion. At CALW we learned how the University, the Columbia Alumni Association, CCAA and many other Columbia organizations around the world are responding to changes and trends in economic conditions, career choices, and alumni and student interests. One of the most interesting is a new set of programs on campus this year that is organized around entrepreneurship.

A resurgence — if not a revolution — in entrepreneurship is taking place across the nation. Entrepreneurship activity is at its highest level in 14 years, according to the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor, a joint venture of Babson College and the London School of Business, which began tracking such activity in 1999. In 2012, the average total, early-stage entrepreneurial rate increased to nearly 13 percent of students on college campuses nationwide, an all-time high since GEM began tracking.

This trend has had an impact on curricula, co-curricular programming and student life at universities across the nation. In fact, from the Morningside campus, one need look no further than Roosevelt Island, where Cornell and Technion Universities are creating a new academic model that blends equal measures of engineering and entrepreneurship education with industry and business community engagement. Columbia is also building its own infrastructure to support this growing sector.

The undergraduate student club Columbia Organization for Rising Entrepreneurs (CORE) has grown in triple digit percentages in the last year.

"The Office of the Dean is supportive and pleased to be a part of the growing campus-wide entrepreneurship initiatives," says Dean James J. Valentini. "We like the progress that CORE has made but we are especially proud of the contributions it is making to both the current student and alumni communities."

In winter 2012 President Lee C. Bollinger initiated Columbia Entrepreneurship, which launched in July 2013. CE now resides in the Office of the President, maintaining a close partnership with the University's Office of Alumni and Development. Its mission is to accelerate and encourage the culture of innovation and entrepreneurship at Columbia and to drive cohesion among entrepreneurship resources on campus, the student body and the alumni communities. CE is already making it easier for Columbia entrepreneurs to launch businesses.

"In partnership with the many centers of entrepreneurship excellence in and around campus, we're building out a set of entrepreneurship programs and resources that includes co-working spaces, mentorship, workshops, lecture series and events," says Bollinger. "It is Columbia Entrepreneurship's goal to make it easier for young entrepreneurs to launch Columbia-born businesses."

CE is now a cross-campus organization working with all schools, student clubs and alumni communities in a hub-and-spoke model. It already has found operational success as a convening authority forging collaboration between centers of entrepreneurship practice across campus and across the Columbia alumni community. CE also offers practical programming where much-needed resources are missing and is helping individual schools build curricula and programming.

The CCAA Board of Directors has been very supportive of this effort, brainstorming with CE leadership on alumni needs and working closely with CE staff to provide support, advice and links to the College alumni community. We are very excited to partner with CE and to make sure its activities are well integrated into our own engagement initiatives.

The strong interest in entrepreneurship in the College alumni community was clearly apparent in the enthusiastic response and attendance at an event on September 16 featuring Jack Dorsey, co-founder of Twitter and CEO of Square. College students and alumni attended in huge numbers and the feedback given to CCAA and CE was that we should be doing much more.

I strongly encourage all College alumni, whether or not you are building a startup of your own, are a serial entrepreneur, are interested in supporting our students and alumni or just want to learn about the exciting new activities at Columbia, to visit entrepreneurship.columbia.edu to learn more.

As always, I look forward to your sharing your thoughts with me at ccaapresident@columbia.edu.

Kyra



Members of Columbia Organization for Rising Entrepreneurs, one of the most popular undergraduate student clubs, gather outside Low Library.

Bookshelf

Robert N. Butler ['49], MD: Visionary of Healthy Aging by *W. Andrew Achenbaum*. The author discusses Butler's contributions to the concept of healthy aging and argues the continuing relevance of his pioneering work in gerontology, geriatrics, medicine and social work (Columbia University Press, $40).

True Successor: A Novel of the New Roman Empire by *Joseph H. Levie '49*. Levie writes an alternate history in which Emperor Charles Martel IV sits atop a contested throne in Charlemagne's revitalized empire (iUniverse, $16.95).

Searching for the Best Medicine: The Life and Times of a Doctor and Patient by *Arthur Bank '56*. The author relates his experience in medicine to the field as a whole, discussing how one practices good medicine as well as the problems facing health care and health insurance in the United States (World Scientific, $48).

The Great Rent Wars: New York 1917–1929 by *Robert M. Fogelson '58*. Fogelson traces the history of rent control in New York City, studying the rent strikes and conflicts that arose between tenants and landlords during the post-WWI housing shortage (Yale University Press, $45).

Presidencies Derailed: Why University Leaders Fail and How to Prevent It by *Stephen Joel Trachtenberg '59, George B. Kauvar* and *E. Grady Bogue*. The authors provide a collection of case studies, testimonies and literature reviews to examine and explain patterns of leadership failure in higher education (Johns Hopkins University Press, $34.95).

Unrepresented States and the Construction of Meaning: Clinical and Theoretical Contributions edited by *Howard B. Levine '64, Gail S. Reed* and *Dominique Scarfone*. In this series of essays, the editors compile critical contributions to the development of the psychoanalytic field (Karnac Books, $40.95).

Misuses of Poetry and Other Poems by *Les Gottesman '68*. Gottesman's newest collection challenges conventional style through a cynical and surreal approach to questions about the human condition (Finishing Line Press, $14).

Makers of Modern Architecture, Volume II: From Le Corbusier to Rem Koolhaas by *Martin Filler '70*. Architecture critic Filler surveys works including Charles Renfro's High Line and Rem Koolhaas' CCTV Headquarters in Beijing (New York Review Books, $29.95).

In Praise of Angels: A Novel of the Reconstruction Era by *Richard Smolev '70*. This work of historical fiction follows Philadelphia reporter Benjamin Wright as he covers the impeachment of Andrew Jackson and other events of the turbulent reconstruction era (Academy Chicago Publishers, $35).

The Big Crowd: A Novel by *Kevin Baker '80*. Brothers Tom and Charlie O'Kane must clear Charlie's name after he is linked to the death of a police informant that occurred 10 years earlier, during his term as NYC mayor (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $27).

Murder at Dacha by *Alexei Bayer '80*. Bayer's debut novel takes place in 1960s Moscow, where Sr. Lt. Matyuskin must solve the murder of a powerful Soviet boss (Russian Information Services, $16).

Drive Me To Think: Driving Time Is "Law of Attraction" Time. Convert Negativity Into Miracles While Driving and in Life by *K. Scott (Kenneth Scott Hayes) '92*. Hayes uses driving and commuting time as moments for self-reflection and meditation in this spiritual guide book (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, $14).

Mexico's Revolutionary Avant-Gardes: From Estridentismo to ¡30-30! by *Tatiana Flores '95*. Flores provides a thorough account of the early 20th-century Mexican Renaissance (Yale University Press, $65).

Degraded Work: The Struggle at the Bottom of the Labor Market by *Marc Doussard '97*. The author outlines creative policy and organizing opportunities that workers and advocates can use to improve job quality (University of Minnesota Press, $25).

Rewilding by *Jasmine Dreame Wagner '00*. Winner of the 2012 Ahsahta Press Chapbook Contest, Wagner's collection of poetry reimagines the world with verve and originality using abecedarian form (Ahsahta Press, $15).

My Funeral Gondola by *Fiona Sze-Lorrain '03*. Lorrain's second book of poetry offers meditations on the bittersweet struggles and inner intensities of solitary life (El Leon Literary Arts, $18).

Harlem Nocturne: Women Artists & Progressive Politics During World War II by *Farah Jasmine Griffin, the William B. Ransford Professor of English and Comparative Literature and African American Studies*. Griffin tells the story of three artists who embodied Harlem's spirit of creative work along with a social conscience during the 1940s (Basic Livitas Books, $26.99).

Mass Flourishing: How Grassroots Innovation Created Jobs, Challenge, and Change by *Edmund Phelps, director, Center on Capitalism and Society*. Phelps, a Nobel Laureate in Economics, develops an argument for why nations prosper, calling for a commitment to modernity, grassroots dynamism, indigenous innovation and widespread personal fulfillment (Princeton University Press, $29.95).

Columbia University in Pictures by *Lenny Pridatko*. This award-winning collection of 150 photographs showcases the University's campuses and community and offers lesser-known facts about Columbia (Luminance Press, $59.95).

Karl Daum '15



David Epstein '02, '04J Examines the Complexity of Sports Science

By Ethan Rouen '04J, '11 Business

In a sense, **David Epstein '02, '04J, '04 GSAS** started working on his best-selling book, *The Sports Gene: Inside the Science of Extraordinary Athletic Performance* (Current Hardcover, $26.95), as a teenage runner.

His suburban Illinois town of Evanston was a "mini Jamaican diaspora" with a high school that won 24 consecutive track and field conference titles. When Epstein moved from sprint to middle distance competition, which he ran as a member of the Columbia track team, the people passing him were Kenyan. And almost all of them were from the same tribe.

"I started asking questions about what was going on in these hot spots to make these people so good," says Epstein, a journalist who recently moved from *Sports Illustrated* to the investigative news organization ProPublica, where he covers sports science, medicine, energy and the environment.

These questions, though, don't have clear answers. *The Sports Gene*, which has received rave reviews in publications from *The New York Times* to *Nature*, provides a snapshot of where science stands in its quest to understand the human genome. Epstein devotes 300 pages to exploring the timeless nature versus nurture question, offering insights into compelling genetic research and examples of athletes accomplishing unbelievable feats.

Instead of shying away from the issues of race and gender that dominate sports science debates, he tackles them head-on. For example, are black athletes inherently better at some sports? Is there a scientific reason why male and female athletes should compete separately?

Epstein's conclusion: The answers may be as complex as the human genome itself.

"I thought readers would have trouble with the ambiguity, but I couldn't do anything about it," he says. "The reception to the book has emboldened me. People are willing to tolerate complexity."

For his reporting, Epstein traveled the globe, interviewing scientists and athletes. He discovered that, yes, there appear to be genetic advantages in some sports, but the Kenyans who consistently win long-distance races also avoided the comparatively sedentary western life as children. The science has not advanced enough to determine exactly what role genes play in ability.

This unwillingness to offer easy solutions initially concerned some publishers.

"The first questions I got when I spoke to publishers were, 'Is this the next *Born to Run*?' [the best-selling book that sparked the barefoot running craze] and 'Where are you going to come down on the nurture versus nature argument?'" Epstein says.

Despite answering "no" and "nowhere concrete" to these questions, the book has the addictive allure of a murder mystery, with each chapter offering fascinating insights brought to life by athletes doing the seemingly impossible.

The Sports Gene opens with Olympic and pro softball player Jennie Finch facing Mike Piazza and Albert Pujols, two of the greatest hitters in baseball history. The softball takes just as much time to cross the plate as a baseball thrown by a major league pitcher — and offers up a bigger target — but both men (and everyone else who was brave enough to face Finch) struck out.

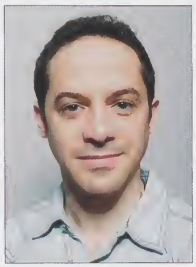
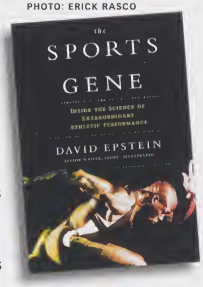


PHOTO: ERICK RASCO



Inherent reflexes, it turns out, are not as important to hitters as practice and memory — seeing enough pitches to know where the ball will end up as it is released from the pitcher's hand.

Then there's the story of Eero Mäntyranta, an Olympic gold medalist in cross country skiing who grew up in rural Finland, strapping on skis for the first time not long after he could walk. In addition to his years of experience, Mäntyranta has a rare genetic mutation that results in a red blood cell count up to 65 percent higher than the average man.

Sure, Mäntyranta had years of practice, but he also had an inherited trait that gave him the same advantage that many athletes risk their careers to attain through doping.

"This was my favorite chapter to write," says Epstein, who traveled to the Arctic Circle to meet the Olympic champ. "Here's someone who actually has a rare genetic mutation" that makes him a superior athlete.

Epstein's first book merges many of the passions he developed at the College, where he started as a science major who initially disdained the Core Curriculum.

His Lit Hum professor, Julie Crawford, "was the greatest teacher and dressed me down for being anti-intellectual," he says. "She changed the way I read and write. She had a concrete impact on my decision to end up writing."

During Epstein's sophomore year of college, his former training partner, Kevin Richards, died immediately after finishing a high school race at the indoor track they shared in Evanston, an event that would shape Epstein's career. Heartbroken, he was unsatisfied with the doctors' determination of heart attack as the cause of death.

Epstein asked Richards' parents for access to the medical records and learned that his friend had a genetic disease, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, which causes the left ventricle to thicken, sometimes reducing blood flow to the heart.

This investigation later led Epstein to write his Journalism School master's project on HCM, a story that became chapter 15 of his book (he completed a master's in environmental science at the same time). It also led to one of his first major stories at *Sports Illustrated*, an article about sudden cardiac death in athletes written after Ryan Shay died during the 2008 men's U.S. Olympic marathon trials.

"Chapter 15 is where all my sports science writing began," Epstein says. "I had hoped that writing about HCM would make it seem like Kevin didn't die in vain, so to speak. But he did die in vain, and I guess we can just hope that spreading knowledge might prevent that from happening to someone else. In some way, shape or form, I'll write on the topic for the rest of my life."

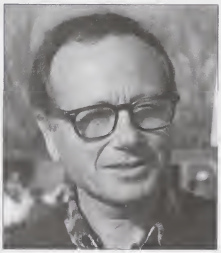
Ethan Rouen '04J, '11 Business *is a Ph.D. student at the Business School and a columnist for Fortune.com. He is a former* CCT *associate editor.*

Obituaries

1942

Michael G. Kovach, priest, Millersville, Pa., on July 12, 2013. A native of St. Clair, Pa., Kovach was ordained in 1943 and was a priest of the Orthodox Church of America for 69 years. He also spent 26 years on the faculty at Millersville University. In the early 1940s, Kovach served as an Army chaplain for 2½ years. Ten years after the war, he earned a Ph.D. in American history from Pittsburgh. Kovach joined the Millersville College staff in 1959 and engineered the 1962 conversion of Millersville from a state teacher's college to a liberal arts college. He retired from Millersville as dean of the Graduate School. For 14 years Kovach was spiritual adviser for the Orthodox Theological Society in America. He was predeceased by his wife of 67 years, Olga A. Hubiak, in 2011. Survivors include a daughter, Helene Dmochowski; sister, Verna Papinchak; brother-in-law, the Very Rev. Daniel Hubiak and his wife, Dunia; sisters-in-law, Ann Hubiak, Eva Hubiak, Marge and Jean; two grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews and godchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to establish a religious education fund to the Rev. Stephen Vernak, pastor of Christ The Saviour Orthodox Church, 5501 Old Locust Ln., Harrisburg, PA 17109.

Philip S. Hobel, film and television producer, New York City and East Hampton, N.Y., on October 23, 2013. A Manhattan native, Hobel was an involved College student, serving as president of his fraternity, Zeta Beta Tau, and a member of NACOMS, among other activities. He was a Navy lieutenant in the Pacific theatre during WWII, including service as an aide to several admirals. Hobel founded the Cortland Furniture Co. after the war and operated it until the '70s, when he entered the television and film business. The founder and owner of The Cinema Guild, Hobel-Leiterman Productions and Document Associates, Hobel was a producer and distributor of award-winning television series, documentaries and features, most notably *Tender Mercies*, which



Philip S. Hobel '42

Robert S. Greene '43, '58 Arts, Jazz Musician

Robert S. Greene '43, '58 Arts, a documentary writer, jazz musician and founder of The World of Jelly Roll Morton Band, died on October 13, 2013, in Amagansett, N.Y. He was 91.

After years of writing, Greene devoted the rest of his career to New Orleans jazz and the emulation of his jazz idol, "Jelly Roll" Morton, an early 20th-century jazz pianist known for his piano skills and influence on jazz. During the 1970s and '80s, Greene recreated the tunes of Morton's Red Hot Peppers, traveling the world with his tribute band. Rather than copy Morton's songs note for note, Greene sought to master his stomping ragtime style within the New Orleans spirit of collective improvisation. Greene often remarked, "Jelly has taught me that you don't play the music; the music plays you."



Born to Oscar Greenstein and Elma Elsa Stern on September 4, 1922, Greene grew up on the Upper East Side. While earning an M.F.A. in theatre arts, he began work at the CBS Radio Network, where he wrote documentary scripts. He was nominated for three and won two Writers Guild of America documentary awards. Greene taught script writing at Columbia and his books on radio writing and television writing were nationally recognized sources. Greene wrote for The Voice of America network during the height of the Cold War in the '60s. He then worked under Edward R. Murrow during the Kennedy administration and later as a speechwriter for the Johnson administration.

In the 1940s and '50s, Greene played piano at jazz clubs across New York. In 1973, he recreated Morton's seven-piece band at the Newport Jazz Festival with three of the original musicians. The band toured the world and played at venues such as Carnegie Hall in NYC and the Royal Festival Hall in London. The band's show in Hatfield, England, in 1982 was recorded and released in 1999 and was the last time three of the original members of the Red Hot Peppers played together.

Jazz critic Whitney Balliett wrote that Greene "is the best of the various Morton pianists; he gets inside Morton's music. He is emotional, reverent, and swinging."

Greene spent much of his time in New Orleans, where he played jazz piano. He contributed regularly to George H. Buck Jr.'s GHB Records to document and preserve traditional New Orleans jazz and played piano for the score of Louis Malle's film *Pretty Baby.* He often traveled to Denmark, France and Japan to perform, write, conduct research and visit longtime friends.

In an interview for *JoyZine,* Greene commented on his love of playing Morton: "If it was once done so perfectly, why do it again? I can only say: Because there's beauty there, there's excitement, there's love. If that can be transmitted to a live audience, some of the aroma of the original happens again … to bring this music to life for people today, that's our challenge."

Greene's final wish was that he be remembered by "playing pretty, any time."

Karl Daum '15

Obituary Submission Guidelines

Columbia College Today welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Deaths are noted in the next available issue in the "Other Deaths Reported" box. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that *CCT* receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at the editors' discretion. Click "Contact Us" at college.columbia.edu/cct, or mail materials to Obituaries Editor, *Columbia College Today,* Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 6th Fl., New York, NY 10025.

was nominated for five Academy Awards, including Best Picture, and won two. Hobel also was a champion golfer. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Mary-Ann (née Hirsch) '47 Barnard; children and their spouses, Joseph '75 and Marjorie, Michael and Michal, and Sara Hobel and Scott Mendel; and six grandchildren. He was predeceased by a sister, Bernice. Memorial contributions may be made to the Taub Institute for Research on Alzheimer's Disease and the Aging Brain at Columbia University (giving.columbia.edu/waystogive).

1946

A. Joseph Foa, retired insurance agent and real estate salesperson, Montgomery, Texas, on January 13, 2013. Foa worked in the insurance business for many years and retired but then decided retirement was not for him, so he obtained his real estate license and worked until his early 80s. He is survived by his wife, Roberta; daughters, Catherine Ranke and her husband, Richard, Barbara Laible and her husband, Robert, Virginia Voit and her husband, Steve, and Mary Jo Kutler and her husband, Shelley; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and sister-in-law, Dorothy Hayes. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Patricia Ann Foa, and son, William.

1948

Merrill L. Brockway, retired director and producer, Santa Fe, N.M., on May 2, 2013. Brockway was born on February 28, 1923, in New Carlisle, Ind., and began studying piano at 7. He served in the Army in Europe in WWII as a driver for a chaplain and provided music for the chaplain's services. Brockway earned an M.A. in musicology in 1952 from GSAS. After graduating he was an accompanist for singers. In 1953, Brockway joined WCAU in Philadelphia, moving scenery for *Action in the Afternoon*. Within a year he was promoted to director and worked on educational and children's programs. Brockway became interested in dance after seeing Martha Graham, with whom he went on to work. He was the original series producer for PBS' *Dance in America*, and he directed and produced it through 1980. Modeled after the dance numbers in Fred Astaire movies, the show became known for showing dancers' bodies mostly in full. Brockway was nominated for seven Primetime Emmys and received two for the show. He returned to CBS in 1980 as executive producer of arts programming for the newly formed CBS Cable cultural channel. In 1993, he retired to Santa Fe. Brockway is survived by his partner of 17 years, John Eric Roybal.

Kennett P. Love, foreign correspondent, Sag Harbor, N.Y., on May 13, 2013. Born in St. Louis on August 17, 1924, Love attended Princeton and was a pilot in the Navy Air Corps during WWII. In 1946 he married Felicite Pratt (she predeceased him in 2002) and matriculated at Columbia. Love's newspaper career began at *The Hudson Dispatch* in Union City, N.J. He joined *The New York Times* in 1948, working on obituaries before becoming a reporter in 1950. He was in Tehran in 1953 when the CIA executed a successful plot to overthrow Mohammed Mossadegh and replace him with Gen. Fazlollah Zahedi. While based in Cairo in 1954, Love wrote about the discovery of a 50-ft. boat that had been intended to convey the spirit of the pharaoh Cheops to the underworld. He also covered the Suez Canal crisis in 1956 and wrote *Suez: The Twice-Fought War*. Love left the *Times* in 1962 to cover cultural and foreign affairs for the magazine *USA1*. He later taught journalism at the American University in Cairo and worked for the Peace Corps. Love is survived by his partner, Blair Seagram; daughters, Mary Christy Love Sadron and Suzanna Potter Love; sons, John and Nicholas; sisters, Mary Lehmann and Nathalie; and five grandchildren.

1960

Howard A. Mudgett, retired financial services executive, Denver, on September 1, 2013. Mudgett was born on April 4, 1938, in Denver. He found success in the financial services industry, a career that

John Hollander '50, '52 GSAS, Renowned Poet

John Hollander '50,'52 GSAS, a poet, scholar, critic and professor, died in Branford, Conn., on August 17, 2013. He was 83.

A master of verse, Hollander was known for his formalist and neoclassicist approach at a time when many poets were experimenting with form. He cited W.H. Auden as a major inspiration, and his earlier work sought to embody the poet's improvisation of literary forms as well as a sense of playfulness woven into traditional style. Hollander's first collection, *A Crackling of Thorns,* was chosen by Auden in 1958 for the Yale Series of Younger Poets, which published the collection with a foreword by Auden. Among his Columbia literary influences, a mix of professors and classmates, were Mark Van Doren '21 GSAS; Lionel Trilling '25, '38 GSAS; Louis Simpson '49 GS, '59 GSAS; Daniel Hoffman '47, '56 GSAS; and Richard Howard '51. His greatest influence, however, was Allen Ginsberg '48, who shared Hollander's belief in the "mythological weight" of poetic form. One of Hollander's best-known poems, "Helicon," tells of his excursion with the famous Beat poet to sell their blood for spending money.

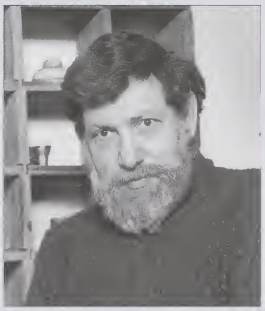


PHOTO: T. CHARLES ERICKSON, YALE UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

By the end of his long and prolific career, Hollander's style had evolved from what he described as "epigram literature" to a less witty, more high-minded form of what he called "murmurs or chants," which divided critics, many of whom felt that his puzzling language and private meditations lacked subject matter. Others viewed this evolution as a reflection of his poetic eminence, as Hollander intricately explored verse and stanza form, most notably in his works *Rhyme's Reason* and *Powers of Thirteen*; the latter won Yale's Bollingen Prize in 1983.

Hollander was born on October 28, 1929, in New York City. He attended Bronx Science, where he wrote a humor column for the newspaper. At Columbia he wrote for *Spectator* and was editor of *The Review* with Ginsberg. Hollander began a doctorate at Indiana, leaving in 1954 to join the Society of Fellows at Harvard and returning to finish his Ph.D. in 1959. His dissertation was published as *The Untuning of the Sky: Ideas of Music in English Poetry, 1500–1700* in 1961, the first of many critical works.

Hollander joined the Yale faculty in 1959. He left in 1966 to teach at Hunter, but returned to Yale in 1977 and taught there for 25 years. He was named the Sterling Professor Emeritus of English in 1995 and retired in 2002.

Hollander published 20 collections of poetry, his last being *A Draft of Light*. He also wrote seven critical works and edited many more including the two-volume collection *American Poetry: The Nineteenth Century* for the Library of America.

Richard Poirier in *The Washington Post* in 1978 described Hollander as "the most intellectually daring, poignant, and thrilling poet writing in the Emersonian tradition of our poetry."

Hollander married Anne Loesser in 1953; they divorced in 1977. He is survived by his wife, Natalie, whom he married in 1981; daughters, Martha and Elizabeth; brother, Michael; and three grandchildren.

Karl Daum '15

OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

Columbia College Today also has learned of the following deaths. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that *CCT* receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear.

1939 **Thomas H. Dawkins,** retired plumber, artist, Middletown, Conn., on April 30, 2012.
Irving L. Schwartz, physician, Brookline, Mass., on April 2, 2011.

1943 **Cedric C. Philipp,** retired pharmaceutical representative, Audubon, Pa., on July 18, 2013.

1945 **Joseph M. Stein,** retired neurologist, Topeka, Kan., on July 24, 2013.

1946 **Ernest C. Aitelli,** retired urologist, Tehachapi, Calif., on September 16, 2013.
Robert F. Capon, reverend, Shelter Island Heights, N.Y., on September 5, 2013.

1947 **Frank E. Karelsen III,** attorney, New York City, on August 27, 2013.

1948 **Paul H. Gerst,** surgeon, Tenafly, N.J., on September 29, 2013.

1949 **Frank M. Angeloro,** retired insurance executive, East Greenwich, R.I., on February 7, 2013.
Lewis Kurke, retired psychiatrist and teacher, Scottsdale, Ariz., on May 31, 2013.
Cass F. Santos Jr., reverend, Mechanicsburg, Pa., on February 25, 2013.
Charles F. Wittenstein, retired attorney, Atlanta, on February 4, 2013.

1950 **Carmine P. Bianchi,** retired professor emeritus of pharmacology, Boothwyn, Pa., on August 13, 2013.

1951 **Herbert H. Beardsley,** retired Episcopal priest, Cutchogue, N.Y., on January 26, 2013.
Chester M. Edelmann Jr., professor of pediatrics, Bronxville, N.Y., on September 19, 2013.

1954 **Morton A. Cohen,** retired dentist, Bennington, Vt., on September 24, 2013.
John G. Daniels, Downingtown, Pa., on June 22, 2013.

1955 **Calvin R. Jenkins,** Salt Lake City, on January 28, 2013.

1957 **Sheldon S. Hendler,** scientist, physician and musician, San Diego, on November 12, 2012.

1960 **C. Wayne Case,** retired USN commander, Pittsfield, N.H., on February 1, 2013.

1961 **Marshall H. Berman,** author, academic and philosopher, New York City, on September 11, 2013.

1963 **Richard L. Knopf,** Manteca, Calif., on September 15, 2013.

1964 **Henry F. Epstein,** physician and neuroscientist, Houston, on February 2, 2013.

1966 **Leonard V. Don Diego Jr.,** retired teacher, EMT volunteer, Manalapan, N.J., on September 17, 2013.
Douglas M. Strock, jazz pianist, Encinitas, Calif., on August 6, 2012.

1967 **Alan Candiotti,** university dean and professor, Madison, N.J., on August 19, 2013.

1969 **Mark L. Drucker,** professor, St. Louis, on August 12, 2013.
Joseph M. Hassett, physician, Portland, Ore., on February 13, 2013.
Arthur Schoengold, physician, Derwood, Md., on April 20, 2013.

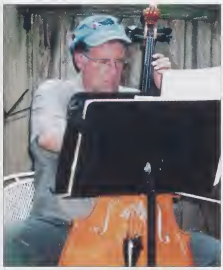
1981 **Alan J. Saffran,** otolaryngologist, Winter Park, Fla., on September 27, 2013.
Jonathan Taffler, business executive, Wilton, Conn., on September 13, 2013.

1991 **Solomon S. Johnson,** East Orange, N.J., on September 3, 2013.

spanned four decades. Mudgett reached executive level positions in several Denver companies, and other positions took him to Chicago and Sacramento before he retired and returned to Denver. Mudgett's lifelong interests were academia, aviation, science, technology, history, art, travel and architecture. According to an obituary sent in by his son, Jeffrey, Mudgett "loved nothing more than exquisite literature, a baroque classic, an impressive bottle of wine and a warm Siamese cat. Howard was generous with his love of learning, never missing the opportunity to bestow the virtues of enlightenment. Howard relished his close friends, business associates and cronies. Always warm with a sarcastic quip and highbrow humor, he took great joy in keeping those closest to him completely off-balance. Howard's heart took nourishment from opera music in the hills over Sante Fe. His restless soul awed at the towering canyon walls of the Colorado River. His unrelenting mind quieted at the sight of a Picasso. That's what gave him joy and peace." Mudgett is survived by his ex-wife, Melinda Anderson; son and his son's wife, Karrina; and two granddaughters.

1964

Edward N. Leavy, attorney, Washington, D.C., on July 23, 2013. During his years at Columbia, Leavy rowed for the lightweight crew and was an active member of Alpha Epsilon Pi. After earning a law degree from Brooklyn Law School and an LL.M. from NYU, he moved to Washington, D.C., to run the regional office for the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. He later co-founded Leavy, Frank, and Delaney, a successful immigration law practice in Bethesda, Md. Throughout his life, Leavy remained a devoted and active member of the Columbia alumni community. Columbia nurtured his lifelong love affair with the arts, particularly music and theatre. Leavy was part of a Columbia College family that included his father, Maurice Charles Leavy '27, '29L; son Charles Katz-Leavy '02; and daughter-in-law, Michelle Leavy '02. Leavy is survived by his son and daughter-in-law as well as his wife, Judy Katz-Leavy; other children, Neal Kayastha and Gabrielle Katz; sister, Isabella Levenson; and his grandchildren.



Edward N. Leavy '64

1986

Kevin A. Hall, attorney, San Francisco, on November 12, 2012. Born on March 23, 1964, in Nairobi, Kenya, Hall attended Dover College in England, completing to his A Levels, after which he graduated from the College with a B.A. in history and French literature in 1986 and an M.I.A. from SIPA in 1988. He then earned a J.D. from Cornell in 1991. Hall embarked on an international law career, first as an associate with Winthrop, Stimson, Putnam & Roberts and then with White & Case. In 1998 he moved to the New York office of Linklaters, where he became partner. In 2006, Hall joined Reed Smith as a partner and moved to San Francisco. He was a member of the American, New York, California and San Francisco Bar associations. In 2009, Hall transitioned from private practice to join LiveDeal as general counsel. He later was appointed president and CEO. Hall completed the E.M.B.A. program at the Stanford Graduate School of Business in August 2012 and was a member of the Board of Directors of the San Francisco YMCA and AIDS Legal Referral Panel. He is survived by his spouse, Mark Khoury; parents, Anthony and Gillian; and siblings, Melissa and Ian. Memorial contributions may be made to the San Francisco SPCA Development Department, 201 Alabama St., San Francisco, CA 94103; 415-554-3029; or sfspca.org/civicrm/contribute/transact?reset=1&id=13.

Lisa Palladino

Class Notes

25 40

Columbia College Today
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John S. "Rip" Ripandelli '40, a retired actuary in Tallahassee, Fla., writes: "I was awarded, in April, the decoration of Knight of the Legion of Honor by the French government (by decree of President François Hollande on January 21) for service in WWII and as a 'Thank You, America' for liberating the French from the German occupation. The Legion of Honor was created by Napoleon in 1802 to acknowledge services rendered to France by persons of exceptional merit.

"I met with French Ambassador François Delattre on April 25 in Tallahassee and was presented with the Legion of Honor there along with five other WWII veterans."

CCT congratulates Rip on the honor.

Your friends and classmates want to hear from you! Please send news about yourself or your family, or a favorite Columbia College memory, to *CCT* at either the email or postal address above. You also can send news online using *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

This column is a wonderful way for classmates to stay connected. Please let us hear from you!

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Robert Zucker
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No news arrived for this issue but don't let the quiet lull you. I know you have updates to report, nostalgia to indulge in and family happenings to share. We want to hear all about them. You can write me at either address at the top of the column, or use *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. In the meantime, best wishes for an enjoyable holiday season and a happy, healthy New Year.

Class Notes are submitted by alumni and edited by volunteer class correspondents and the staff of *CCT* prior to publication. Opinions expressed are those of individual alumni and do not reflect the opinions of *CCT*, its class correspondents, the College or the University.

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Melvin Hershkowitz
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On July 20, I received a note from Helene Dmochowski, daughter of **Michael Kovach,** reporting Michael's death at 94 in Millersville, Pa. Michael was born in St. Clair, Pa., and after graduating from St Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, he was ordained in 1943 as a priest in the Orthodox Church in America, continuing in that role for 69 years. Starting in 1944, Michael served for 2½ years as an Army chaplain. Ten years after WWII, Michael earned a Ph.D. in American history from Pittsburgh. In 1959 he went to Millersville University, where in 1962 he engineered the conversion of the school from a state teacher's college to a liberal arts college with degree programs in philosophy and Russian studies. At the time of his retirement from Millersville, Michael was dean of its graduate school.

He was married for 67 years to Olga A. Hubiak, who predeceased him in March 2011. Michael is survived by his daughter; grandson, Ivan; granddaughter, Sasha; sister, Verna Papichak; and several nieces, nephews and godchildren.

At Columbia, Michael was a bit older than most of us in the Class of 1942. He was a member of the Slavonic Society and was a mature and friendly presence on campus. We send our good wishes and condolences to his family. Classmates desiring more information may contact Helene at helenedmo@me.com.

Multiple obituary notices in *The New York Times* on July 25, 26 and 28 reported the death of **Arthur S. Graham Jr. '42E,** '50E on July 24 at 92. Arthur had been in apparent good health a few days before his death, continuing his daily swimming exercises in a local pool. He was one of the most loyal and active alumni supporters of Columbia, serving as president of the Columbia University Club of Westchester County and as v.p. of the Society of Columbia Graduates.

In June 2012, Arthur was one of six classmates who attended our 70th reunion luncheon in Hamilton Hall. Another who was there has also died, Professor **Morris Grossman;** the four who remain are **Robert J. Kaufman, Immanuel Lichtenstein,** Dr. **Bernard Small** and your correspondent.

Arthur, a longtime member of the Westchester Reform Temple, served on its board and helped establish its special needs program. I wrote about Arthur in the Fall 2011 issue of *CCT*, when he and his wife, Ruth, celebrated his 90th birthday with a three-week cruise around South America. Arthur also came to several lunches arranged by the late Dr. **Herbert Mark** at the Columbia University Club of New York; attendees included **Nick Cicchetti** and your correspondent. The last of these was held in December 2005.

Dr. Gerald Klingon '42, who celebrated his 93rd birthday on September 22, is a retired neurologist.

Arthur came to Columbia from Townsend Harris H.S., an elite academic high school in Queens. During WWII he was an officer in the Air Force in the CBI Theatre, participating in the famous flying over the Hump operations.

Arthur earned an M.S. from the Engineering School in 1950 and had a long career as an engineer and consultant for many major corporations, including General Motors, Maxson Electronics, General Foods and Sterling Drugs. He retired as v.p. of A.T. Kearney. He was a member of Zeta Beta Tau, the American Institute of Industrial Engineers, the Institute of Management Sciences, the Material Handling Institute and the National Council of Physical Distribution.

Arthur is survived by his wife; children, Helen Gurny and Pat; and five grandchildren. We send condolences to Arthur's family, as we say thanks and farewell to one of Columbia's most devoted alumni.

The New York Times of August 14 reported the death on August 12 of Dr. **Harold Gabel** '46 P&S at 90 at Monmouth Medical Center in New Jersey. Harold came to Columbia from Stuyvesant H.S. After earning an M.D., he served in the Army through 1950. He then settled in Oakhurst, N.J., where he lived and was an internist for 60 years. Harold was on the staff at the Monmouth Medical Center, was past president of the Monmouth Medical Society and volunteered at the Parker Family Health Center in Red Bank, N.J. Harold retired in October 2010, after which he enjoyed his interests in photography, woodworking, bridge and chess.

He was predeceased by his wife, Adelaide, on August 1, just 11 days before his death. Harold is survived by his children, Robert, Ted, Michael, George, Kathy, Steven and Daniel; and 15 grandchildren. We send our condolences to Harold's family.

Congratulations to Dr. **Gerald Klingon,** who celebrated his 93rd birthday on September 22. Gerry, a retired neurologist, earned his M.D. at Weill Cornell Medical College and had a long, distinguished career on the staff of that institution and in his private practice in Manhattan. A longtime generous donor to Columbia's football program, Gerry has had season tickets for many years. Your correspondent last saw him at our Homecoming game versus Dartmouth on October 20, 2012, and as I write these notes, I hope to see him again at this year's Homecoming game versus Penn on October 19. Gerry's son, Robert, an Amherst and Boalt Hall (UC Berkeley Law) alumnus, often accompanies Gerry to the games at Robert K. Kraft Field and is an honorary member of our Great Class of 1942.

With best wishes and kind regards to all classmates, I welcome your email messages, letters and telephone calls (413-586-1517).

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Alas, no news from classmates. My monologue follows.

In the spring, Ralph Gladstone '47 took me on a personally guided tour of the Edgar Allan Poe House here in Philadelphia. Ralph is a scholar of ancient Greek literature and equally steeped in the life and career of the poet.

Intimations of mortality and immortality: I attended funerals or memorial services for three friends in June, and I met my 8-day-old great-granddaughter, Margaret,

in July. She was part of a pleasant, 10-member, weeklong family reunion on the south shore of Lake Ontario.

My wife, Audrey Evans (88), fell twice during the summer; she suffered an ulnar fracture of the right wrist, multiple bruises and lacerations that required suturing. She is now steadier on her feet when walking with a cane.

In August we went to Chicago, where Audrey accepted an award for her role in founding the Ronald McDonald House Charities 39 years ago. They are "homes away from home" where children and their families can be sheltered when in- or outpatient hospital visits are required. There are now more than 300 in more than 40 nations around the globe.

Also in August, Audrey and I visited Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times, a children's camp she initiated 27 years ago. It is in northeast Pennsylvania near Greeley. Children dealing with cancer, whether cured or still under therapy, can spend a week in a wonderfully run summer camp. No matter what the disability, whether it be loss of a limb or other disfigurement, the child is looked on simply as another camper. Siblings also may attend, carrying out the concept of "total care" initiated by the late, great Dr. Sidney Farber. He taught that a family with a sick child is a sick family and that all family members need help, care and understanding to mitigate the problems and stresses they undergo.

We have had several houseguests including a family of four from Taiwan, the son of a colleague from New Zealand and a Panamanian friend who came for a day. CC '43ers are always welcome at Casa D'Angio/Evans.

In sad news, **David Norr,** a financial analyst, investment adviser and CPA who lived in Scarsdale, N.Y., died on August 19, 2012.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014

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44

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Please bear in mind that our 70th reunion is almost upon us (Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1), a rare opportunity to meet up again after all these years. Tom Brokaw called us "The Greatest Generation," and we can prove him correct by sharing this occasion with all the other CC graduates whose key years will be similarly celebrated. Any present-day infirmities should not deter your attendance. Canes, walkers and wheelchairs will be readily accommodated. More details about the events will follow in the next issue.

I welcome submissions recalling fond memories of the College in the 1940s and/or reports on your current activities. I have the following vivid personal recollections of the academic side of life:

The first is of a 1942 course, "Geology s7, Maps," taught by Professor Armin K. Lobeck, the leading geologist of his day. The concluding session was a field trip to a festive rendezvous in New Jersey. We were divided into groups of three, each threesome starting from a different location. My group included an enrollee from NYU, Erwin G. Harris, who by coincidence was a friend from Yonkers. Each trio was furnished with aerial photographs of the surrounding area to enable us to reach our meeting place.

We took the Yonkers Ferry (now defunct) across the Hudson to Alpine, N.J. We were supposed to follow the long ascending road to the top of the Palisades, thence to proceed to our destination. However, Erwin insisted that we save time and shorten our trip by scaling the Palisades. Halfway up, we encountered a precipitous portion rivaling the sheerness of the White Cliffs of Dover. An avalanche ensued, causing bruises and bloodshed to the three of us. Then, two New Jersey policemen appeared at the top; they bawled us out and told us to stay put till they could come back with a rope. Not wanting to be arrested and fearing an "F" for the course, we ignored their admonition and somehow climbed up. We arrived at our destination late, bloody but unbowed, to the cheers of our classmates. (We also learned that another trio, which was on the George Washington Bridge, had stopped to examine the aerial photos; when one of them jokingly began speaking in German, law enforcement officials quickly apprehended them, with the result that they never reached their appointed target.)

Years later, in 1960, Erwin made media headlines by seizing Fidel Castro's Cuban government airliner while the leader was visiting New York. He had employed a court order, based on Castro's alleged debt to him for services rendered. Stranded without transportation, Castro accepted the offer of Nikita Krushchev of a Soviet aircraft to take him home. Verification of this international incident can be found in the obituary for my old NYU friend in *The New York Times,* dated March 18, 2013.

An accomplished pianist, Rudolph Carboni '44 served for six years on the board of The Music School of Delaware and has enjoyed playing with various jazz groups.

My second recollection is of a one-point elementary course, "Philosophy 13, Philosophy in Morals, Religion, Art," taught by Professor Irwin Edman (Class of 1916), who was the eminent head of the philosophy department. I anticipated a deep, rather complex presentation from Professor Edman, who was one of the creators of Contemporary Civilization and who was widely quoted for his brilliant observations. Thus, I was pleasantly surprised when in the first class, discussing logic, he said: "All flubjubs are dingbats. This is a flubjub. Therefore it is a dingbat."

My third recollection is of an elementary physics course taught by Professor John R. Dunning, who also taught the University's most advanced physics course and who became dean of the Engineering School. Professor Dunning subsequently gained worldwide recognition for his critical contributions to the development of atomic energy and the atomic bomb. His work was based primarily in Columbia's Pupin Physics Laboratory. Little did we appreciate at the time the thrust of his lectures, in which he frequently hinted at the magnitude of scientific progress that would later envelop the world and the Class of 1944. I recall how he reviewed great scientific achievements and how he predicted that they would be dwarfed by the then-embryonic stages of scientific advances.

I heard from **Rudolph Carboni,** who after graduation worked for three years for Pfizer as a research chemist. He then earned a Ph.D. in chemistry at MIT, which was followed by a 35-year career as a research chemist in the Central Research Department at DuPont. This culminated in a series of technology management positions. He also wrote a book, *Planning and Managing Industry – University Collaborative Research,* published in 1991.

An accomplished pianist, Rudi served for six years on the board of The Music School of Delaware (2,000 students) and wrote a series of piano pieces published in a volume titled *Mel Bay Presents Fun Pieces for the Piano.* Never one to be idle, Rudi has enjoyed playing piano with various jazz groups. (Perhaps we can persuade him to entertain at the 70th reunion.) For the past 10 years, he has been attending classes and occasionally teaching courses in American literature ("The Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway" and "Best American Short Stories") at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute — Wilmington at the University of Delaware. Recently, Rudi co-authored *Shadows in the Lotus Pool,* a memoir about his co-author's father and the father's close but turbulent relationship with China's President Chiang Kai-shek as a member of his inner circle during the emergence of modern China. The book was published in the United States in 2011 and translated into Chinese and then published in serial form by a Taiwanese literary magazine in 2012. Never single-minded, Rudi has had a number of his poems published in poetry magazines.

It has been almost 74 years since Rudi and I graduated from Yonkers H.S., and I am pleased that in his 90s he is definitely not a couch potato.

Alan Hoffman accepted my invitation to recall memorable events and emailed the following: "Dan Hoffman '47, '56 GSAS, the famous poet, was originally in our class, and I knew him slightly (some classes had alphabetical seating plans). Once, when he was already famous in his profession, I read in the newspaper that he was chairman of a committee awarding prizes for poems (or poets, I forget which). So I sent him a letter congratulating him for being a maven of bards, but he never answered.

"At the time, **Walter Wager** was writing the Class Notes. I wrote him at one point about his sensitivity to the mores of mathematicians, a 'sacerdotal' community. He wrote back that he was proud to have a classmate who could use the word 'sacerdotal' in a sentence.

"My first wife was a patient of the late **Richie Bader.** Once during a summer I went with her to the Baders' office (run by Richie and his brother, the late **Morty Bader**), which was not far from the Metropolitan Museum of Art. It was crowded, with about 30 people

sitting in the waiting room. When we finally got to see him, he asked me to figure out why the office was so crowded. I said, 'Because you're the best doctor in New York?'

"He answered, 'That may be true, but it's not the reason there's such a crowd.'

"'Maybe you're the cheapest doctor in New York? That's surely false; I give up,' I said.

"He replied, 'Because I'm the only doctor in New York. Everybody else is in the Hamptons.'

"The late **Lenny Koppett** decided one day that he wanted to live in Palo Alto, and he persuaded *The New York Times* that the paper would save money if he covered western events from there instead of flying from New York, so I saw a lot of him during the eight or nine years that I hibernated at Stanford. I was so proud that in general intelligence (not technical knowledge, of course) he was as smart as anybody in that community, spoke clearly and wisely, and so on."

I receive emails from **Dan Choy**, who can best be described by one word: indefatigable. He continues his intense work to market his device to relieve suffers of tinnitus, "ringing in the ears" to the lay person.

I received a letter from Dr. **Martin Beller** '46 P&S, retired and living in Gaines, Pa. He began by thanking me for becoming the '44 correspondent, adding, "Your tenure will not be as long as **Walter Wager**'s for obvious age-related reasons."

Martin continued, "Recent deaths include my CC '44 and P&S '46 classmates, Dr. **Richard E. Bader** and Dr. **Robert L. Rosenthal.** Bob and I also were classmates at PS 6 in Manhattan and the Horace Mann School.

"Wilma G. Kjelgaard and I celebrated our 66th wedding anniversary on June 29. We returned to her hometown in Gaines, Pa., in 1987 after I practiced orthopedic surgery in Philadelphia 1952–87. My early retirement was prompted by Felix DeMartini '43, '46 P&S, my medical school classmate, who made a similar choice.

"The later years in Class Notes in *Columbia College Today* do not include the things we thought interesting and important when I entered Columbia as a 16-year-old in fall 1940. I enjoyed working on *Spectator*'s Business Board, ending with a Gold Crown as circulation manager. I was elected to Nacoms in 1943. Acceleration gave me my B.A. with honors in 1944 after completing the first year at P&S. I continued medical school March 1943–March 1946; I was the youngest member of my class, receiving my M.D. one month before my 22nd birthday. Studies came first with my election to Phi Beta Kappa at the College and Alpha Omega Alpha at the medical school.

"Wilma and I have been blessed with three children and nine grandchildren. Our granddaughter, Ruth Kjelgaard Foreman (B.S. from Penn, Ph.D. from MIT and M.D. from Harvard) has blessed us with a great-granddaughter (2)."

Recently, Roy Kallop '46 and I had a pleasant discussion about our days both at Yonkers H.S. and at the College. Midway through his Columbia studies, Roy joined the Navy, went to Naval Station Great Lakes in Illinois, and served for 1½ years in the Pacific on the *William C. Miller*, a destroyer escort, returning to Columbia to earn a bachelor's. He also earned a master's from NYU. During his career as an actuary, Roy was v.p. of the National Council on Compensation Insurance, after which he retired. He is a lifelong resident of Yonkers and enjoys life, notwithstanding a partial loss of eyesight. Roy recalls the sage advice given to him by head track coach Carl Merner: "Always remember, your studies come first."

Finally, we note, sadly, the passing of **Joseph Barata.**

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[Editor's note: *CCT* welcomes **Charles Gilman** as the new CC '45 class correspondent. The notes below arrived at the *CCT* office before his tenure, but going forward, please contact Charles directly with news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels, or even to share a favorite College memory. You can contact Charles at either the email or postal address above, or you can send news directly to him online using *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.]

Charles Gilman writes: "I entered Columbia College in fall 1941 as C. Malcolm Gilman Jr. The day after Labor Day in 1942 my name was changed by the Army to Charles M. Gilman Jr. but Columbia and my friends ignored that. It only matters that after the war I used my Army name.

"I was very proud of my freshman cap. I remember being startled by electrolytes in chemistry — why had I never heard of them? Why did I not know ancient philosophers discoursed subjects common to us? So much to learn and so little time. We knew what was coming.

"In Hartley Hall, I had some great neighbors. I particularly enjoyed spending time with **James Keegan** and **Don Kasprzak** '51 P&S. We had a freshman crew that made a grown man cry — Hugh Glendon was our heavyweight crew coach. Unbelievably, we morphed into a 1943 depleted squad that beat the undepleted Navy.

"With my first and second wives, now both deceased, I raised eight children and lost one grown son. I had two careers. I helped build highways — New Jersey Turnpike, Massachusetts Turnpike, Garden State Parkway, Richmond Petersburg Turnpike and so on. From the '70s to the '90s I worked in automotive retail. Most of the career was in sales management. Now, I sell collectible stuff on eBay!

"I am in my 90th year. I would like to hear any news anyone cares to pass along."

Paul Lewis lives in Plano, Texas. He writes, "Unfortunately, I lost my wife to cancer in 2010. My two daughters are married and live in the Dallas area. My son, who has three boys, lives in Austin. I am, of course, retired. My passion is getting out information on how to prevent cancer. I am program chairman of a local veterans group."

CCT welcomes Charles Gilman '45 as a class correspondent. Looking back on his time at the College, he recalls being "very proud of my freshman cap."

46

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Herbert Hendin has devoted much of his career in psychiatry to suicide prevention; he is the CEO and medical director of Suicide Prevention Initiatives. A major focus of Herb's work has been on suicide among America's military and veterans, and he shares these thoughts:

"In recent years more U.S. military personnel and combat veterans are dying by suicide than are killed in combat. Post-traumatic stress disorder is the condition most associated with suicide in both groups. Most military personnel and veterans with PTSD, however, are not at risk of suicide. Persistent severe guilt over combat experiences is the major factor differentiating veterans who had attempted suicide and those who were seriously preoccupied with suicide from those veterans who were neither. This first became a problem in the Vietnam War.

"The chaotic nature of guerilla combat in Vietnam, the uncertainty about who was the enemy, the emphasis on body counts and the Viet Cong's use of women, children and the elderly as combatants all contributed to combat actions about which veterans felt severe guilt.

"How the veteran experienced the combat events — i.e., the meaning of the combat experience to the veteran — was the key factor in determining the nature of the guilt and the risk for suicidal behavior. 'Meaning of combat' refers to the subjective, often unconscious perception of the traumatic event; it includes the affective state of the veteran before the event took place, when it took place, and the affects experienced subsequently. Recurrent nightmares are a cardinal symptom of PTSD. They are an invaluable tool in determining the meaning of the experience to the veteran and the veteran's risk of suicidal behavior.

"The nightmares of most veterans with PTSD correspond closely with the combat experiences and the terror over being killed that they engender. Veterans with severe guilt over their combat experiences are likely to have punitive nightmares and are at highest risk for suicide.

"A veteran [whom we'll call G] who had made a serious suicide attempt had, under the stress of combat, lost control of his anger and directed artillery fire into a village he knew to be friendly. Through his binoculars, G had watched with excitement as the shells landed. As the village was being destroyed he saw an old woman with betel nut stains on her teeth running in his direction, shaking her arms trying to get him to stop the shelling. As she ran toward him, she was killed by an artillery round.

"After he returned to the United States, G was tormented by a painful recurring nightmare that expressed his intense guilt over the destruction of the village. In the dream he is captured by the villagers and paraded so that the villagers could throw stones at him, hit him, spit on him and curse him. The old woman with the betel nut-stained teeth is taunting him. He knows they are going to kill him.

"Understanding the subjective, perceptive experience of combat to the veteran is a crucial step to success in treating these veterans. A core of trust between the

veteran and the therapist needs to be established for this to take place. Even when that trust has been established, veterans may not be willing or able to reveal the combat experience that is most disturbing to them right away.

"The veteran needs to forgive himself for the behavior that triggered his guilt that is being expressed in a self-punitive way. When the veteran feels relief at having shared the experience with a trusted therapist, that therapist is in a position to help — to give him 'permission' to forgive himself, to work with the therapist to resolve problems that have developed in the course of the illness and to go on with his life. Guilt is a healthy human emotion that can be harmful when it is self-punitive but it can also be a powerful force for changing the direction of one's life.

"Although we see many veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan with PTSD similar to the Vietnam veterans, the picture is complicated. The multiple tours of combat increase the exposure to combat stress and add significant stress to family and personal relationships. Casualties in the war in Iraq were largely due to improvised explosive devices (IEDs), which were responsible for the number of traumatic brain injuries (TBI) that have resulted from that war. Veterans with TBI are also more vulnerable to suicide. Guilt over combat actions, however, is less likely to be an issue for those veterans with TBI. In often exhibiting aggressive emotional behavior that is out of control, however, they have much in common with the veterans with PTSD who are suicidal."

You can read more about Herbert in the Spring 2012 issue.

From Post Falls, Idaho, **John McConnell** wrote about a four-day family reunion in Pullman, Wash., that celebrated his mother's birth 125 years ago (1888). John's grandparents homesteaded in Pullman as wheat ranchers. Sixty members of the family from multiple time zones as far west as Wake Island attended the celebration. The festive gathering included another Columbian, John's brother, David '48.

I regret reporting the death of **Robert Capon**, an Episcopal priest, author and freelance writer on food and wine for *The New York Times* and *Newsday*. He wrote 27 books, including the highly acclaimed *The Supper of the Lamb: A Culinary Reflection*, which became a Modern Library Paperback.

I am also sorry to advise the passing of **Bernard Goldman** in October. Notes from Bernie in Lakewood, Colo., appeared frequently in this column. His love of Colorado's mountains where he skied and volunteered, and the community's high regard of him, are evident by the awards and distinctions that were bestowed on him through the years. In recognition of his service as an alumnus, Bernie was awarded the Columbia Alumni Medal in 2006.

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Columbia College Today
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Dr. **Nicholas Giosa** last wrote in a year ago (see Winter 2012–13). He writes this time around: "At 88, I'm a widower. Have three sons, oldest graduated from Columbia (CC '76) and twins graduated from the United States Naval Academy. Presently, avidly involved with poetry, photography and maintaining the household.

"Fondest memory of Columbia: Professor Dick, who taught Humanities in 1942 and later was my instructor in a creative writing course on poetry. I still have the poems. He was old school: courtly, always wore a vest with a fob; always gentle and affirmative with his critiques. I cherish his memory.

"Here is a poem I wrote:

A Brief Admonishment to Myself

I looked at myself in the mirror,
and said, "Old man, at eighty-five,
do not allow pity to be your
shadow-companion or your guide; you,
a physician who tended so many at
the time
of their impending demise; you,
so aware
of the trajectory of this tale
that mewls at its inception,
struts at its pinnacle
and then drools at its conclusion;
slog through your apprehensions
as you face each passing interval,
and whatever your allotted time,
embrace
it with an air of quiet dignity.

"Continue with your daily chores
and rituals: as you cut the grass,
hang your wet laundry on your frayed
clothesline and parade a canvas
of assorted shorts and underwear,
shirts, socks and other sundry goods,
to the afternoon sun, the drying air
and too, the immediate neighborhood.
Tend to your tomato plants and your
solitude, as your father used to do.

"Enjoy your spare meals with your
unfailing
glass of wine. Cherish your weekly
get-togethers
when you dine with the few old friends
that remain,
as you rehash old yesterdays,
recite and renew current aches
and pains,
again and again and again.

"Dwell on the gift of memories:
it is the one true possession
that tells what trials and felicities
we passed through to become who
we are,
that will sustain us as we try to
confront
the waning tomorrows with a head-on
fortitude;
and as you recall your labored journey,
may it be with some fair measure of
gratitude."

August 14–17, 2010

George L. Kline Ph.D. '50 GSAS shares, "In the 'bad old days' (1950s–80s), my writings on Russian and Soviet philosophy and on Marxist-Leninist ideology and policy were harshly attacked by certain Soviet scholars. Now one of them, Professor Michael Maslin, much changed in philosophic outlook, has offered to translate into Russian an article of mine, 'The Rise and Fall of Soviet "Orthographic Atheism"' (2009), as well as an extended account of my scholarly work. (My title refers to the Soviet practice of writing Bog ['God'] as bog ['god'], Gospod' [Lord], as gospod' ['lord'], etc.) I have checked his translations and find them to be readable as well as accurate. Both of them are scheduled to appear soon in a publication celebrating the 70th anniversary of Maslin's Department of the History of Russian Philosophy at Moscow State University."

Thank you to Nicholas and George for writing in!

CCT needs a class correspondent to write this column. If you are interested, please contact Alexis Tonti '11 Arts, managing editor: alt2129@columbia.edu or 212-851-7485. In the meantime, please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels, or even a favorite College memory, using either of the addresses at the top of the column. You also can send news online using *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

This column is a wond[illegible]rful way for the class to stay connected, and we, and your classmates, want to hear from you!

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Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
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Dr. **Frank I. Marcus** is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health study seeking a better understanding of the genetics, molecular basis and clinical manifestations of arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy (ARVC). NIH recently awarded him $1.4 million to study genetics, mechanisms and phenotypes of arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathies.

Frank, professor emeritus at The University of Arizona's College of Medicine, Division of Cardiology and Sarver Heart Center, is a principal investigator for the multicenter study. He is a world authority on ARVC and received the European Cardiac Arrhythmia Society's Outstanding Achievement Award in 2011. That same year, he received the Pioneer in Cardiac Pacing and Electrophysiology Award from the Heart Rhythm Society.

According to a press release Frank sent to *CCT*, "A significant cause of sudden cardiac death in people under age 35, [ARVC] affects about one in 1,000 people. It primarily affects the heart muscle in the right ventricle, causing potentially fatal ventricular arrhythmias."

The five-year project is a RO1 NIH grant. Frank will work with Dr. Julia H. Indik, who will be in charge of the diagnostic core lab to evaluate right ventricular angiograms in enrolled patients to be certain they have ARVC.

The goal is to provide consistent diagnostic analyses of patients and family members with right ventricular and left ventricular cardiomyopathy. The study also seeks a better understanding of the genetics, molecular basis and clinical characteristics of these patients and progression of the disease over time.

Norman Kelvin Ph.D. '60 GSAS is Distinguished Professor of English Emeritus, CUNY. "I continue to write essays and reviews," he says.

We heard from **Fred Messner** of Woodcliff Lake, N.J. At 87, he's still working, as president of Messner Marketing Communications, an ad agency he runs with his wife, Violet, and son, v.p. Kenneth '87 GS. The agency is a B-to-B firm handling non-consumer companies. Fred and Violet have three other children, Steven '73, Lynne and Katherine; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren (2-year-old twin boys).

Fred also plays piano as well as teaches it and composes for it. He's proud to announce that his chamber music piece "More or Less Merengué" was played in November in Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall by the trio Palisades Virtuosi and featured the flute, clarinet and piano.

Thanks to Frank, Norman and Fred for getting in touch!

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the meantime, please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels, or even a favorite College memory, using either the email or postal address at the top of the column. You also can send news online using *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

This column is a wonderful way for the class to stay connected and we, and your classmates, want to hear from you!

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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49

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A gloomy, rainy night just before the autumnal equinox finds your correspondent searching his files for a note or two worth relaying.

Alas, my efforts are to no avail. I can only report that **Fred Berman** has been in touch regarding initial planning for our 65th reunion (see dates and Alumni Office contacts above). We are a thinning but plucky and stalwart group. Our voice is still strong and if our hearts keep up, we will have a joyous celebration. Make it your priority!

In the meantime, in the hope that winter finds you all in a warm place, surrounded by love for the holiday season and hope for the New Year, I send my greetings.

I also write these words with the anticipation that as the days grow longer again, as inevitably they will, you will find time to let us hear from you.

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Bob Goldsby's book, *Molière on Stage: What's So Funny,* was selected this year by *Choice*, a periodical for academic and research libraries, for its list of Outstanding Academic Titles. In addition to his literary effort Bob is active in the theatre world. He recently participated in a seminar on Corneille, a 17th-century French playwright, at Antaeus, a classical theater in Los Angeles where Bob also recently directed *Cyrano de Bergerac* in a staged reading.

Bud Kassel, healed after his skiing accident last spring (see Fall 2013 Class Notes), is rarin' to go again as a host at the Stowe Mountain Resort near Mount Mansfield, and he extends an invitation to all class members. Just ask for "host Bud Kassel" and he will treat you to the lift ticket.

Irving Kushner, although nominally retired as professor of medicine at Case Western, is still active. Irv, who has had a long career in medical research, was invited to deliver a lecture at the annual meeting of the American College of Physicians last April in San Francisco. The title of his lecture was "Making The Most of Those Rheumatology Tests." In addition, two of Irv's papers on medical history were published in medical journals last summer. "The 4 Humors and Erythrocyte Sedimentation: The Most Influential Observation in Medical History" appeared in *The American Journal of the Medical Sciences* (August 2013); "The Crown of a Good Name: W. Barry Wood, Jr., and Daniel Nathans" was published in *The Pharos* (Summer 2013).

Bernie Prudhomme marked the end of his first year of residence in Thomson, Ga., with the observation that he doesn't miss the big city (Atlanta), where he resided for 43 years.

Al Schmitt, who commented in the Fall 2013 Class Notes that he "can't stand being retired," found some relief from the tedium when he and his wife, Joan, traveled to College Park, Pa., to see their oldest grandchild graduate from Penn State.

Sad to report, **Donald R. Lawrence** of New York died in June 2013.

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I'm afraid we didn't receive any news in our class mailbox, virtual or otherwise, this time around. Please don't be shy! Your classmates want to hear from you. You can write me at either address at the top of the column, or use *CCT*'s handy webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. In the meantime, best wishes for a bright holiday season and a happy, healthy New Year.

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Sidney Prager
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In June 2008 your reporter took on the responsibility of writing the Class Notes column for our Class of 1952.

The task was overwhelming that June because I had only 10 days to get my first column to the editor. However, I managed to do a fairly good job on my initial endeavor.

Five years have passed quickly, and it has been a gratifying experience. Speaking to many classmates who have accomplished wonderful objectives in their respective fields has given me uplifting admiration not only for our classmates but also for Columbia College and the part that it played in our lives.

However, being informed of the various illnesses and declining health of many of our once-vigorous classmates, and the passing of too many others, has left me with some sadness. Time can be healing but time is also the promoter and partner in deterioration.

It has been a privilege and an honor to have done this work for five years and, yes, it has involved work. But the rewards to me have been worth it.

Bob Goldsby '50's book, *Molière on Stage: What's So Funny,* was selected this year by Choice for its list of Outstanding Academic Titles.

I thank the *CCT* editors for all their help. Lots of good luck to the classmate who will succeed me in writing this column. Your reporter also wishes all the members of the Class of 1952 good health and good luck.

Now, for an update:

On behalf of **Jack Ripperger,** his wife, Kathryn Lodal, writes, "Jack and Kathryn celebrated 45 years of marriage in May 2013 with a trip from their home in San Diego to NYC for their 8-year-old granddaughter Lauren's first communion. They always enjoy time in New York with Lauren and her sister, Norah (4), and their adult children, Lisa '92 TC and Matthew '94. Upon their return to San Diego, Jack fell and fractured a vertebra. After six weeks of hospital and rehab, he is doing well."

CCT thanks Sid Prager for his service to the magazine and to the College. Class Notes help connect, and reconnect, classmates to one another as well as to the school that played a part in shaping them. Class correspondents perform a valuable service for classmates as well as for the College, and **Sid Prager** filled this role admirably for the past five years.

The column now needs a new writer. If you are interested, please contact Alexis Tonti '11 Arts, managing editor, at alt2129@columbia.edu or 212-851-7485. In the meantime, please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels, or send a favorite College memory to cct@columbia.edu. You also can send news online using *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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After reading in *The New York Times* that President Barack Obama '83 had nominated Jeh C. Johnson '82L to be the next secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, I telephoned our own **Jeh V. Johnson** to congratulate him on his son's prestigious nomination.

As we talked, I became increasingly fascinated by events in Jeh's life. For example, his father became the first black president of Fisk University. "In those days," Jeh explained, "when black people came to visit Fisk, they stayed in our home because they could not stay at any of the white-only hotels in Nashville. The white professors and colleagues who came to see my father usually slept at one of the Nashville hotels, except for Dean Harry J. Carman [(Class of 1919 GSAS)]. Dean Carman stayed in our home. When he learned that I was interested in going to college to study architecture, the dean suggested I apply to Columbia. I took his advice and happily spent the next four years on Morningside Heights."

Through the years, Jeh traveled to towns and cities across the country looking for black churches and determining their history. "Some of the churches in the South were built from the pennies, nickels and dimes that black people raised," Jeh said. "Other churches were built from funds that were raised by people taking out second mortgages on their homes."

Jeh's stories of memorable events in his life are fascinating. Keep up the good work!

Dick Lempert sent the following obituary for a delightful friend and fraternity brother, **Francis P. King** '59L, who passed away on July 19, 2013: "Francis King, a prominent tax attorney in Denver, spent many happy years with his friends and family hiking and skiing in neighboring mountains.

"As a first-year Law School student, Francis was a member of a group of four close friends — the others were **Harry Brey, Dick Lempert** and Frank Walwer '52 — who took turns preparing lunches on a small, hidden stove in one of the dorm rooms. Writing about himself for a 50th reunion directory, Francis said, 'I have the dubious distinction of having been taught evidence by our classmate and future president of the University, **Mike Sovern.** I raised four wonderful children and claim seven grandchildren. I remarried eight years ago to my beautiful wife, Susan, and picked up two beautiful daughters in the process.'"

Francis' infectious enthusiasm will be sorely missed. [Editor's note: See Obituaries, Fall 2013.]

In a telephone conversation, **Henry Villaume** reported that he has not allowed 13 or 14 heart attacks to stop him from being an active curmudgeon of conservative political philosophy. As a member of his town's school board, he was able to cut $600,000 from the school budget. As we reminisced about our days at Columbia, Henry indicated that he was going to write a book of political essays. Unfortunately, he hasn't found a publisher with a conservative point of view that is willing to publish his manuscript. However, he assured me that if I gave my new address to his wife, Suzette, he would send along his conservative texts. (My wife, Saralee, and I recently moved; please note our new address, at the top of the column.)

When Suzette came on the phone, I learned that she grew up in the same town as Saralee and my brother-in-law, **Seymour Hendel.** "Seymour was in second grade when I was in first grade," Suzette recalled. "As a matter of fact, Seymour scolded me for talking too loud and warned that if I wasn't quiet, the teacher was going to write my name on the blackboard. Sure enough, our teacher wrote both our names on the board."

After I gave Suzette our address, she added, "Seymour was a truly kind boy."

Anthony Robinson writes, "I read that the reunion [this past June] was very nice, a fine gathering. Sorry to have missed it. (I'm feeling a lot better.) I'm coming out with a book called *New Water,* a collection of short stories I've written through the years."

Having enjoyed Tony's novels, I'm looking forward to perusing his short stories.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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In a short period of time, we will celebrate the 60th anniversary of our graduation from Columbia College. I understand this reunion will include opportunities to visit new facilities on Morningside Heights as well as farther uptown, including the Campbell Sports Center at the Baker Athletics Complex.

With help from the Alumni Office and the leadership of our class president, **Bernd Brecher,** our Reunion Committee has been formed and is planning events. At this point the committee includes Bernd and myself along with **Herb Frommer, Leo Cirino, Saul Turteltaub, Kamel Bahary, Richard Bernstein, Norman Kahn, Richard Kameros, Ron Sugarman, Al Thompson, John Timoney, Herb Hagerty, Al Hellerstein, Arnold Tolkin, Bob Weber** and **Dick Werksman.**

We would be more than happy to have additional volunteers to help with this wonderful gathering. Please let Bernd know if you would like to be active in this way; he can be contacted by email at brecher services@aol.com or by phone at 914-961-4101.

I am certain that this coming reunion will be a source of both joy and pride.

Joe Pomerantz, a retired dentist, and his wife, Carol, enjoy their life in Florida, which includes volunteer work, golf, tennis and "the summer rain." Joe had a close relationship with **Mort Cohen,** a retired dentist in Bennington, Vt., who passed away on September 24, 2013.

Please enjoy life and remain healthy so that we can meet one another at our reunion.

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There are quite a number of initiatives taking place on campus and overseas, and many are fed by the growth of the Columbia Global Centers. A special gathering of center leaders, led by VP for Global Centers Safwan Masri, took place in New York in September to discuss strategies and activities related to growth opportunities. "Outstanding" and "helpful" are two words that would describe the meetings.

Later in the month, key University people paid a visit to Paris (Reid Hall) to celebrate world literature. All lovers of literature, books and writing were invited to the inaugural Festival des Écrivains du Monde. It was the result of a partnership between Columbia and the brilliant library in Paris, La Bibliothèque nationale de France. (Did someone say: September in Paris?)

One of the hottest topics floating around the school on Morningside Heights is entrepreneurship. This area is headed by two of our more creative and idea-generating minds: Trustee Emeritus Richard E. Witten '75 and Director for Entrepreneurship Chris McGarry. The potential and interest level was evident at a lecture given in mid-September by Twitter co-founder Jack Dorsey; more than 900 students, faculty, alumni and administrators packed Roone Arledge Auditorium in Lerner Hall.

Another area that shows terrific potential is online learning. The University has entered into a pilot agreement with an online platform called Coursera. In addition, there is a University-wide review of digital learning under way.

Columbia Connects (formerly CAA Worldwide Networking) took place in the fall, allowing alumni around the world the chance to network. An NYC event was held in a nice cozy retreat, Pranna, in downtown Manhattan in late September. Other events were held concurrently throughout the country and around the world.

Not only is Columbia doing well in the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings and in admissions, but membership at the Columbia University Club of New York in midtown is at an all-time high and growing rapidly.

As for our classmates, **Bob Thonus** informed us that his former roomie, **Lary Faris,** was honored at the 100th anniversary of the USA National Shuffleboard Association. Lary has won many tournaments and is in the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. Bob was to make a whirlwind tour back East this past fall (visiting his high school in New Jersey, among other places). **Barry Pariser** shows up at various fencing reunions and lives in West Fishkill, N.Y. He has taken up piano (watch those hands!) and is working at the VA in Castle Point, N.Y. Too bad Barry can't find things to keep him busy.

You have a chance to cheer for the old blue-and-white when the men's basketall team travels to Brooklyn's Barclays Center to play the St. John's Red Storm on Saturday, December 28 (tickets may be purchased at gocolumbialions.com). Who will be making the trek? **Igou Allbray, Stan Friedman, Donald Marcus, Alfred Gollomp** and maybe even **Joe Savino, Bob Schoenfeld** and our captain, **Ron McPhee?** Could we expect **Dick Kuhn** to put aside his law practice to make an appearance?

By the way, Stanley Maratos '53 sent belated get-well wishes to Ron after his stay in the hospital. **Abbe Leban** has passed the word that he is now living in San Francisco. It's not Wilmington, Del., but you can't have everything, I guess. **Bernie**

Columbia School Designations

In Class Notes, these designations indicate Columbia degrees from schools other than the College.

Arch.	School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
Arts	School of the Arts
Barnard	Barnard College
Business	Graduate School of Business
CE	School of Continuing Education
Dental	College of Dental Medicine
E	The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
GS	School of General Studies
GSAS	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
J	Graduate School of Journalism
L	School of Law
Nursing	School of Nursing
P&S	College of Physicians and Surgeons
PH	Mailman School of Public Health
SIPA	School of International and Public Affairs
SW	School of Social Work
TC	Teachers College

Kirtman might give Abbe and his wife the good-neighborly tour.

Jim Hudson has been working on his MBO (Member-Based Organizations) project and promises to give an update shortly — he reports, though, that progress has been made. If anyone wants to know more, contact your trusted correspondent.

On Saturday, March 1, the battle for New England will take place, when the Light Blue cagers face the Harvard Crimson in Cambridge. We expect a big alumni gathering at both the reception and the basketball game. We'll be looking for **Eddie Goldberg, Harold Kushner, Mike Vaughn, Walt Flanagan, Bernie Chasan, Sandy Autor, Kenny Parker, Guy Whitfield, Herb Cooper, Nick Avery, Nelson Nordquist** and **Ralph Wagner.**

A sad note to report: the passing of **Ronald Corn** and **Ludwig Dosch.** Condolences go to their families and friends.

My fellow classmates:

Our 60th is just around the corner and moving closer (Thursday, May 28–Sunday, May 31, 2015).

Plans will be developed shortly to make this Alumni Reunion Weekend the most enjoyable and significant ever.

Make your reservations now — you won't be disappointed.

Most of all, we want you there.

Love to all! Everywhere!

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In September, our first after-summer class luncheon was held at Faculty House and was attended by **Ron Kapon, Mark Novick, Ralph Kaslick, Al Broadwin, Danny Link** and myself. It was good to get back to the Columbia campus on what started off to be one of the nicest end-of-summer days. As we were enjoying our lunch and the interesting discussions that take place whenever we get together, a downpour occurred. Fortunately, as we lingered longer than we should have, the rain stopped; thus, not only were we able to catch up on our various summer activities but we also got to spend an extra hour together. (It was also good for those of us who, not expecting rain, had not brought an umbrella.)

Our class lunches will continue to be held monthly. We will vary the venue between Faculty House on campus and the Columbia University Club of New York in Midtown. I encourage every class member who lives in or is visiting the area to join us. If you are not receiving my email notices about our luncheon dates, please send your contact information to me: tball8000@earthlink.net.

On August 29, I attended a meeting at the Alumni Office, housed in the Columbia Alumni Center on West 113th Street between Broadway and Riverside Drive. In attendance were **Ralph Kaslick, Al Franco '56E** and myself, along with Sydney Maisel, our Columbia College Fund representative, and Jackie Morton, a Planned Giving representative. The discussion focused on how our contributions are used and some of the factors that determine how they can be allocated. It is interesting to know that we are able to designate our gifts for a specific purpose — for example, the Core or scholarships — within the College Fund. Gifts to athletics teams count toward College Fund totals in reunion years. As always, I encourage classmates, if so inclined, to support the College Fund. You can give by credit card at college.columbia.edu/giveonline or by calling 212-851-7488; alternately, mail a check, payable to Columbia College Fund, to Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025.

Jerry Breslow, whose piano playing and singing we enjoyed at our 50th reunion, has written the following to give us an update on his life since then:

"There have been some changes in the lives of the Breslows. My wife, Harriet, and I were blessed with a grandchild, Jayna Rose Breslow — our first and probably our only — born in May 2011 to our son, Jeff, and his wife, Amie. I retired from the Board of Directors of the Strathmore Hall Foundation, where I was for 11 years secretary and parliamentarian as well as director. I continue to serve on its nominating and governance committee. My service on the research review committee at Suburban Hospital, a Johns Hopkins constituent, also continues.

"Five years ago I became involved with the Maryland Classic Youth Orchestras (MCYO), a Strathmore artistic partner (which performs at the Music Center at Strathmore), rewriting its articles and bylaws. It is a 68-year-old organization that provides talented student musicians from third grade to high school with opportunities to perform with their peers from the Washington, D.C., area. I joined the MCYO board a few years later, and this past spring I became chairman of the board. Last year the kids performed at Carnegie Hall.

"In 2012, Harriet and I journeyed to Northern California and visited **Mel Eisenberg** and **Bill Schaffer.** Mel teaches at the law school at UC Berkeley; we saw him and his wife, Helen, in San Francisco. We traveled to San Jose to spend the day with Bill and his wife, Gesine. Due to Bill's Parkinson's they moved from their lovely home in the hills above Los Gatos to a home on one level. However, they still have an active life. Together we saw the film about the Metropolitan Opera's enormous set for Wagner's operas.

"Last year, after many, many years, I got in touch with **Gordon Osmond,** the first classmate I met during Freshman Week. Gordon now lives in Brazil with his partner. He is a successful author, among other accomplishments. He has written *Wet Firecrackers: The Unauthorized Autobiography of Gordon Osmond,* which is highly amusing. Some of his reminiscences of our days at Columbia are quite interesting. Gordon also recently published his debut novel, *Slipping on Stardust.*

Lary Faris '55 was honored at the 100th anniversary of the USA National Shuffleboard Association.

"I play tennis three days a week and see **Frank Neuberger** at least once a month for poker. If anyone visits D.C. and has the inclination to get in touch, please do (jerry@breslow.org)."

Larry Cohn and his wife, Judie, continue their hectic travel schedule. In May they went on a trip that started in India and continued on to Egypt, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Qatar, Oman and Jordan (Petra). In September they traveled to the Ukraine, Romania and Hungary, and they plan to be in Africa January–February 2014.

I am another one of the traveling members of our class. My wife, Elke, and I spent a week this summer cruising in Alaska and have trips planned for this fall and winter to Mexico. After the breathtaking sights in Alaska, I encourage all class members who are traveling to exotic places to share their experiences with us.

Ed Botwinick reports that he has recovered from his back surgery, is now fully active traveling and is still flying. Ed is a trustee of the Lamont-Doherty Earth Institute Observatory and visits New York frequently in connection with Columbia-related activities. I hope his visits will coincide with one of our class lunches.

Giora Ben-Horin works with his son in the land investment/development and syndication business in Phoenix. He visits New York occasionally and says he would like to attend one of our class lunches if it fits his schedule. We would welcome Giora, who last visited a class lunch in Midtown three years ago.

Len Wolfe, our class historian, recently moved with his wife, Ruth, from his long-term residence in Wilton, Conn., to New Haven, Conn.

Two of our class members recently had books published.

Alan Press said an expanded version of his North Korean article, "What's a Smart(?) Jewish Boy from Brooklyn Doing in a Place Like North Korea?" with photographs, has been published online by World Voices Web del sol. If you are interested in reading about Alan's fascinating trip and the reasons he went, type "Web del sol Alan Press" into your browser's search box. I still hope to have Alan host one of our class lunches and discuss his trip.

Arthur Bank writes, "My new book, *Searching for the Best Medicine: The Life and Times of a Doctor and Patient,* is now published. You can preview quite a lot of it on Amazon. Writing the book was a good chance for me to think about my life: my experience with cancer, my childhood and my family's pretzel bakery, my wonderful education including the transformational experience at Columbia College, and my medical training and experience in internal medicine and hematology. Writing gave me an opportunity to discuss medical care and treatment today along with other societal problems that have emerged in the past 55 years as we have seen our society's priorities change from more lofty goals to an overwhelming power of money."

John Garnjost, who recently visited NYC from South Carolina with his wife, Janet, to celebrate his birthday, was able to schedule a tour of the Campbell Sports Center. He writes, "The planned use of the unique architecture is most impressive. Once inside the building, the various levels make sense."

Happy birthday to John, and let's hope our athletics teams continue to benefit with "Ws" as a result of this new facility.

Again, please let me or **Lou Hemmerdinger** (lhemmer@aol.com) know of any news that you would like to share in Class Notes. Also if you have changed your email or mailing address recently please inform the *CCT* staff at college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus; this is part of our mission to connect all class members.

I wish everyone a healthy and enjoyable winter in whatever locale you may be spending it.

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Martin Brothers wrote to **Stan Barnett** and a number of others. Stan shared the note with me, and now I share with you: "Thought of you last evening [August 26] as **Alan Brown** and I were attending a lecture and video presentation sponsored by the Columbia Alumni Association. The site of the Café Columbia Monday evening lectures has been changed from the PicNic Market & Cafe on Broadway to the more comfortable Columbia Alumni Center, where about a dozen attendees listened to art history professor Stephen Murray demonstrate his website project featuring detailed virtual tours of the major gothic cathedrals of Europe, including contextualized historical commentary and other information. You can see details of the cathedrals that you might never see if you were actually there. Check it out: mappinggothic.org.

"While there I also chatted with Dr. Bohdan A. Oryshkevich '68, whose sister teaches at Columbia. Her special interest is the architecture of New York City. He says she's lectured on many architectural subjects, including cathedrals and synagogues, bridges, famous edifices and lesser known ones as well. He thought she'd be willing to give a presentation (perhaps with slides) for our group at the Alumni Center.

"If enough [of our classmates] indicate an interest, I will try to arrange for her to give a presentation for us on a mutually convenient date."

If you are interested in such a lecture, please contact Martin: mlbrothers@optonline.net.

Larry Boes has already weighed in, saying, "I would join in such a lecture or tour of NYC churches and cathedrals, maybe just St. John the Divine. …

"There is a nearby Episcopal church on Amsterdam Avenue, maybe in the 90s, with beautiful Tiffany windows. I took a lecture course with a summer class at Columbia, taught by an architecture history professor from Lehman College, which took us to about 10 churches and synagogues across several months."

Jerry Werksman writes, "In 1959 and 1960, when I was in my last two years of the Law School, I inherited the job of Columbia sports correspondent for *The New York Times* from my brother, Richard '54, who had held it during his time at [the Law School]. In that role I went to more events — tennis, swimming, fencing, wrestling matches and baseball and basketball games — than the director of athletics. Fortunately, the *Times* sent a full-time correspondent to cover football games. When I graduated, I vowed never to go to another college athletics event, Columbia or otherwise.

"Moving to Chicago shortly thereafter, and then 25 years later to Newport Beach, Calif., made that vow easy to follow. [Nevertheless] in late May 2013 I read in the sports section of the local newspaper that Columbia had won the Ivy League title in baseball and would be playing in Fullerton, not that far away, in the NCAA eliminations. The pride I have always had in Columbia and my love for it came to the fore and I was an eager spectator at the [game] that Saturday. The Lions were losing 5–0 to New Mexico before tying the game in the eighth inning — and then winning it in the 13th. Having broken my vow, I am looking forward to next year and another occasion to cheer Columbia."

Yours truly returned from a 3½-week trip to the West Coast, which began with the American Bar Association Annual Meeting in San Francisco. After three days of meetings I moved to one of my favorite inns in the Marina District, about halfway between the Palace of Fine Arts and Ghirardelli Square and a short walk from Fort Mason Center, for four days' vacation.

After that I flew to Los Angeles, meeting **Eugene Wagner** for lunch on the waterfront at Marina del Rey. My next stop was San Jose, to visit a couple I have known since law school and some of their children and grandchildren. From there I made my way by bus and train to Sacramento to visit my sister, my niece and her partner. From there I flew to Portland, Ore., and took a two-hour shuttle to Corvallis to visit my younger nephew, his wife and their 2-year-old boy. Then, after a most scenic train ride, I arrived in Seattle, where I have several friends.

At the end of the trip I served as treasurer for the 2013 regional conference of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences (SVU), held at the University of Washington in Seattle. For some years I served as treasurer for a community light opera company in northern Virginia headed by one of SVU's leading members.

For those who are not familiar with the SVU, it was officially organized in 1958. According to an SVU leaflet, "The initiative came from Czech and Slovak intellectuals living abroad during the time when the communist regime in Czechoslovakia had repudiated the country's historical traditions and suppressed free expression. The [SVU] wanted to provide a forum for the free development of Czechoslovak culture in exile and make the world aware of the Czech and Slovak cultural traditions, which date back more than a millennium. Its activities, as outlined in the original bylaws, consisted of supporting and coordinating the educational, scholarly, literary and artistic endeavors of the Czechoslovak intelligentsia abroad. Subsequently, the [SVU] was broadened into an organization open to all individuals, regardless of ethnic origin, interested in fostering Slovak and/or Czech culture."

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Our deepest sympathies go to **Stan Goldsmith** on the death of his wife, Miriam, on September 3, 2013. Miriam was an artisan skilled in handcrafts, particularly the restoration of porcelain objects. She and Stan, who were married for 54 years, have four children: Ira, Arthur, Beth and Mark, and eight grandchildren.

Joe Dorinson made his Hollywood debut last summer — an overnight success after only 70-plus years of developing his shtick. Joe was one of the historians and other talking heads who appeared in the documentary *When Comedy Went to School*. Directed by Ron Frank and Mevlut Akkaya, the film explores the roots of Jewish-American humor, focusing on the Catskills and featuring some of the comedians who got their start in the Borscht Belt, including Jerry Lewis, Jackie Mason and Jerry Stiller. (Joe and some of our other classmates — **Bernie Nussbaum** and the late **Asher Rubin** come to mind — worked their way through the College as waiters in the Catskills hotels.)

Joe Dorinson '58 made his Hollywood debut last summer as one of the historians who appeared in the documentary *When Comedy Went to School*.

Henry Kurtz writes, "It was good seeing everyone at Alumni Reunion Weekend. Let's hope we are all around for the 60th. You know, we actually had enough members of the '58 [*Spectator*] managing board to hold an editorial meeting. Ah, those were the good old days!"

Henry adds that, although officially retired, he is still active in the antiques and collectibles field and is a regular contributor of articles and photo stories to *Antique Toy World Magazine* and *Old Toy Soldier*. His articles also have appeared in *Maine Antique Digest* and *Antiques and The Arts Weekly*. In addition, he does appraisals of antique toys and was one of the principal organizers and catalogers of the Sotheby's' auction sale of The Forbes Galleries' collection of toy boats and toy soldiers, which brought in nearly $2.5 million.

The class lunch is held on the second Wednesday of every month in the Grill Room of the Columbia University Club of New York, 15 W. 43rd St. The cost is $31 per person. Email **Art Radin** if you plan to attend, up to the day before: aradin@radinglass.com.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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I want to begin by reminding everyone of Alumni Reunion Weekend, scheduled for Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. This will be the 55th anniversary of our graduation and we should all try to be there. The Reunion Committee, chaired by **Allen Rosenshine, Steve Buchman** and **Ray LaRaja,** is working hard at planning activities. Suggestions are welcome and if you send your ideas to me, I will forward them to the committee.

Some of the longer submissions for this issue have been split into two parts due to *CCT*'s space limitations. The remainder of the contributions from **Pat Mullins, Luigi Lucaccini** and **David B. Smith** should appear in the next issue. My apologies to them and to you.

Jack Kauderer (officially John) writes, "I vacationed in Avalon, N.J., a half-block from the beach, during the first week in June. While there, my wife, Kathy, and I were able to have all three sons and all six grandchildren spend time with us, in addition to one

of my wife's close friends. As my family is dispersed geographically, a week together was a rare treat."

Ben Miller muses, "I have retired, officially, meaning that I have used that word with my family … LOL. Up until now, I have been saying that there is still something to do that I want to do. Well, there are a lot of things to do that I want to do. I just won't get paid for them anymore. That means I am retired. Right?"

Alan Michael Gelb writes, "On the afternoon of September 11, a photograph was distributed of President Barack Obama '83 and the First Lady, the Bidens and White House staff on the South Lawn of the White House, observing a moment of silence to mark the anniversary of the 9-11 attacks. A careful examination of the photograph showed [former United States] Ambassador [to the United Nations and now United Nations National security adviser] Susan Rice in the front row and, immediately over her left shoulder, my son, Sam '13, just a few feet from the President. ('Dad, the aura projected by the President is palpable.') Sam graduated with a major in foreign relations and a minor in history, and he wants to pursue a career in public service. He resides in Washington, D.C., where he holds an internship with the Office of Presidential Correspondence, helping decide which of the letters to the President will be answered. The President remarked about such letters in his recent speech to the nation. Sam is also preparing to apply to law school and studies for the LSATs during evenings in the Library of Congress ('The building is breathtaking,' he says). I'm pleased to be able to offer this positive report during challenging times."

Ray LaRaja says, "This summer my family and I celebrated some milestones. We gave Adriana, my wife of 50 years, a surprise 75th birthday party. I had also recently, sadly or joyfully, celebrated my 76th. I took my immediate family of 10 on a cruise to Alaska to celebrate all these joyous occasions. As you can see, it's been quite a year! I hope to see as many guys as possible at our 55th. My best to all."

From **Jerry Goodisman:** "I've been meaning to send something in for a long time — sorry to wait so long. I have been a professor of chemistry at Syracuse since 1969, along the way picking up a vase, a gold watch, a barometer and other trinkets on five-year anniversaries, until the program was rightfully discontinued. Before Syracuse, I was at Illinois, although it's a little hard to believe that now.

"This summer was an eventful one. After spring final exams, my wife, Mireille, and I decided 'one more year' would be enough, i.e., we announced our impending retirements to our departments (Mireille teaches French and Spanish at Le Moyne College). We started making plans and negotiating with our respective administrations. We also started planning the celebration of our 50th wedding anniversary, a dinner party for friends and relatives to be held on June 29 (our wedding took place in Paris on June 28, 1963).

"Exactly two weeks before the scheduled party, I had a heart attack. I had none of the risk factors, had been checked regularly and so on, so I didn't know what to make of it. Mireille did, and got me to the hospital very quickly (one of the great things about Syracuse is that you can get anywhere very quickly). I received terrific care, culminating in the insertion of a few stents in an artery. (Apparently, that artery was hereditarily malformed.) Recovery was swift, and the anniversary party went well. Our children and their families came — our daughter, Nathalie, is a French professor at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania and our son, Michael, is a biology professor at Georgia Tech — as did a lot of friends. These included **Paul Kantor** and his wife and almost fellow alumna (no girls at Columbia then), Carole Kantor '62 Barnard.

"Subsequently I had a stress test, which I apparently passed, and was told I could continue my usual activities. They include, in addition to research in theoretical physical chemistry (mostly in collaboration with experimental colleagues) and teaching physical chemistry, cycling, tennis and, very soon, cross country skiing, which is my favorite. Two years ago the skiing was a disaster (global warming has its effects). Last year was a bit better, and we are hoping against hope for more improvement this year. However, I'm afraid we will never get back to the good old days in Syracuse, when it snowed every day and never melted. It would be nice to see that again, especially since we stopped shoveling our driveway a few years ago (and stopped mowing our lawn last year). My best wishes to everyone who remembers me, and even to the others."

Ronald Sommer writes, "When it was summer where you are, it was winter where I am. So, I will tell you how I spent winter in Lima, Peru. First, you need to know that I spent the entire winter here, which is unusual. I eschewed travel this year because I didn't want to miss what was forecast to be the worst August in many years. And it lived up to the hype. As a consequence I spent a great deal more time indoors than is usual for me. This time was used to write the cookbook that I had been promising to write for 25 or so years. It is now in the editing phase, which is proving more difficult than the original writing. But I expect that it will be ready for publication in early 2014. Anyone who would like to read and critique an unedited chapter or two is welcome to write to me and I'll email a copy. My skin is thick and I take criticism well." You can write Ronald at rmsommer2001@yahoo.com.

Pat Mullins writes, "Greetings from Bumpass, Va. … I am definitely planning to be at reunion. … An update on my involvement in Virginia politics: In June 2012 I was elected chairman of the Republican Party of Virginia for a second term. I had no opposition and was elected at a convention of 5,000 delegates. (I was asked to take the chair position four years ago, which [at the time] was not something I wanted to do.) It's been the most time-consuming volunteer job I have ever had, and during the past four years we have been successful in electing Republicans and reaching out to Tea Party folks and to our ethnic communities. Despite my apprehension it has been a fun and exciting job, providing an opportunity to travel throughout our historic Commonwealth and to meet many folks and make many friends. So far, I have visited and spoken in about 90 of Virginia's 130-plus counties.

"I still have trouble adjusting to the position — having an aide that does all my scheduling and being driven to nearly every political event I attend. I stood beside our governor when he announced Virginia's vote at the Republican National Convention and was surprised how many friends around the country emailed to say they had seen me on TV. Moments that have stood out include speaking to 12,000 people at the convention (yes, despite what I was told about the TV lights blocking the crowd, I could see all 12,000 of them); meeting and spending time with many national leaders; signing Mitt Romney's certification papers as our nominee for president; and taking part in Virginia's traditional, pre-Election Day fly-around with the governor, lieutenant governor and attorney general (holding airport rallies in more than a dozen cities across a three-day period)."

More from Pat next time, in the Spring 2014 issue.

Luigi Lucaccini reports, "Occasional contact with classmates brightens an otherwise quiet life here in Mill Valley, Calif., a community seen by some as a western center of liberal affluence — a view reinforced by residual Obama-Biden bumper stickers on the BMW SUVs passing by.

"Last year, before the Supreme Court's decision on the Affordable Care Act, I enjoyed an extended phone conversation with my freshman roommate, **Norman Vieira,** who is retired from teaching law at the Southern Illinois University in Carbondale and lives in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Norman, who published a detailed study of the politicization of the Supreme Court appointment process and has considerable insight into the court, and I, who have no such insight, both assumed that the court was likely to overturn the act, given its recent history and composition, but were proven wrong by events.

"Last fall, after attending a seminar at the Hoover Institution, my third freshman roommate, **Henry Rosenfeld '59E,** and his wife, Leonor, passed through San Francisco to visit the first-grade classroom of their daughter, Jessica Rosenfeld (who attended Teachers College), at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, a grammar school. In addition to visiting their bicoastally dispersed offspring in Boston and San Francisco, Henry and Leonor divide time between Florida and New York, depending on the season, and polish their golf games regularly in both places.

"This spring my wife, Margaret, and I saw **Alan Kahn** and his wife, Linda Parnes Kahn '71 Barnard, who maintain a second residence in San Francisco. They regularly visit their daughter Amanda Kahn-Kirby '94; her husband, Mason Kirby '94; and their grandchildren here. Alan recounts that six hours after retiring from the Wall Street firm he founded with his younger brother, he was recruited by a professor from the Business School to form a hedge fund-of-funds venture (van Biema Value Partners) based on the value investing principles that were developed at Columbia and that are still vigorously taught there. Alan reports, to mix metaphors, that 'it is like a combination of having a second childhood and being a kid in a candy store.'

What's Your Story?

Letting classmates know what's going on in your life is easier than ever. Send in your Class Notes!

ONLINE by clicking college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

EMAIL to the address at the top of your column.

MAIL to the address at the top of your column.

"In an entirely different vein, Alan highly recommends the Gotham Veterinary Center for treatment and care of Manhattan pets. It is pure coincidence that his daughter, Kimberly Kahn '05 GS, happens to be a well-regarded veterinarian at the center. She did her pre-vet work at Columbia despite having spurned her father's earlier entreaties (and breaking his heart in the process) to attend Columbia as an undergraduate in favor of Amherst."

I have more from Luigi, which will appear in the Spring 2014 issue.

David B. Smith writes, "My wife, Helen, and I have been traveling abroad since April. [As I write], we're spending a month in Cabrerets, a village set along the Célé [in southwestern France]. The Célé is a small tributary joining the Lot at Bouzies. It's our second year here. The Célé has through the ages cut a deep valley in the Quercy limestone plateaus. The cliffs behind our house tower above. In the eighth century, someone built a chateau high above on the cliff face. The modern chateau sits along the river above its mill.

"We planned to leave here in mid-October for Venice and then head home in early November."

David has provided us with interesting information about the area which will also have to wait until the Spring 2014 issue.

Portland. When it was built in 1912 it was the second largest organ in the world; it also was the first municipal organ built in the United States. Today it is one of only two U.S. municipal organs still owned by a municipality. In 1981, FOKO was formed to provide continued funding for a municipal organist and for the upkeep and restoration of the organ, which the city could no longer afford.

In his inaugural statement, Larry noted, in regard to a restoration project that will exceed $2 million, that "the Kotzschmar is one of the world's greatest organs with more than 6,800 pipes occupying the entire stage area behind the 'show pipes' that audiences see as well as a space in the ceiling of [city-owned] Merrill Auditorium for an 'antiphonal' voice to surround the audience with sound. Each one of those pipes, as well as the support systems that each pipe has (wind chest, blowers, connections to the console, levers, bellows, tied rods and myriad other mechanisms both large and small) have to be either refinished or totally recreated. There are few mechanical devices used in this work. It is a return to medieval craftsmanship, and for me it is a connection to the origins of our western society."

Congratulations to Larry.

Sad to report that **Howard Mudgett** died in his sleep at his home in Denver on August 31, 2013. Born and raised in Denver, Howard had a career in the financial services industry that spanned more than four decades; he held executive positions in several Denver enterprises including v.p. with U.S. Bancorp and president of First Trust of Denver. His career took him to Chicago and Sacramento as well. He returned to Denver upon his retirement. Howard had a range of interests that ran the gamut: aviation, science, technology, history, art, travel, opera, architecture and literature. He was known for his warmth and his wit. Howard is survived by his ex-wife, Melinda Anderson; their son, Jeffrey, and his wife, Karrina; and two granddaughters.

Bill Verplank roomed with Howard at the College and the two remained lifelong friends. Bill offers this reflection on Howard's life: "He was a second-generation Denver banker, a private pilot and a strong supporter of the arts. Those who knew him will remember him as something of an iconoclast with a sharp wit and an inquisitive and assertive nature."

The class sends its condolences to Howard's family and friends.

After 65 years of conducting synagogue worship, Rabbi Clifford Miller '61 has retired from the congregation pulpit.

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Congratulations to **David Kirk**, who this year was named a fellow of SAVE International. SAVE (Society of American Value Engineering) International is the premier international society devoted to the advancement and promotion of the value methodology (also called value engineering, value analysis or value management). Value methodology is used in government and in the design, construction and manufacturing industries to optimize projects, business and manufacturing processes, and product development.

Larry Rubinstein, who is in "retirement" in Portland, Maine, has become president of the nonprofit Friends of the Kotzschmar Organ (FOKO). The Kotzschmar Organ is a pipe organ owned by the city of

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Ed Auzenbergs '63E, '64 Business, who spent much of his career with TRW Automotive Holdings, wrote that the broad education he received at the College, the Engineering School and the Business School provided him with the breadth of conceptual and analytical tools and thinking needed to function effectively and contribute in a global corporate organization that dealt with a multitude of technical products in many countries and cultures. Ed held many positions with the company, including senior engineer, group foreman, director of manufacturing, director of operations support, plant manager and v.p. of operations. Later, he was director of product planning for rack and pinion steering systems and director/v.p. of planning and business development for TRW's steering, suspension and engine group, with 67 plants in 20 countries. He retired after 33 years of service.

In retirement, Ed and his wife, Ruta, have traveled extensively, including visits to Latvia, Ed's country of birth. He was president of his church council, performs community volunteer work and continues as adviser, minority shareholder and board member of several Ohio industrial firms. Ed golfs often in the summer and plays doubles tennis in the winter. He and Ruta have two children and three grandchildren.

Bob Salman has decided to continue practicing law without being exclusively affiliated with one law firm. He says this will provide him greater flexibility to avoid law firm conflicts and to increase his pro bono activities, and he will draw upon his former partners and colleagues for staffing needs. His areas of expertise are civil trial and appellate litigation, arbitration, risk assessment and litigation prevention, and internal corporate investigations.

Bob has been admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States; the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second, Third, Ninth and Eleventh Circuits; the U.S. Court of International Trade; the U.S. District Court for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York; and the New York State Unified Court System.

He will teach a course on the Nuremberg trials through Brookdale Community College's Lifelong Learning program next spring.

After 65 years of conducting synagogue worship, **Clifford Miller** retired from the congregation pulpit to Caldwell, N.J. (Previously he lived in Bayonne.) He reports that after 50 years of leading High Holiday prayers, he finally had the privilege of sitting beside his wife throughout services.

Although he is still employed more than 30 hours a week as a librarian at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, Clifford says he almost feels semi-retired, writing, "Why didn't classmates tell me years ago what a joy retirement can be, while still blessed with the health to enjoy time with the grandchildren?" He sends warm wishes to one and all. Clifford can be reached at abuelo39@gmail.com.

While on a trip to the East Coast in June and July, **Gerry Brodeur** had lunch with **Bob McCool** and shared a day of golf and spent the night with **Wayne Hatfield** on Cape Cod, Mass. On the return trip to Las Vegas he spent two days with **Jack Kirik** and his wife, Sue, in Rock Island, Ill. Jack and Sue usually spend the winter in Las Vegas.

Jeffrey Rudell is a Vietnam veteran and is involved with a POW MIA project through the U.S. Army Veterans Support Command to recover remains of 1,146 MIAs in Vietnam. Jeff and several other members of the volunteer group went to Vietnam this fall. At this writing, the group was scheduled to have its fall meeting on October 20 at Bally's Atlantic City Hotel and Casino. If anyone is interested in participating in these activities, contact Jeff: 646-696-5233.

David Wilson suffered a heart attack in September but at this writing was recovering nicely and rehabbing at HCR ManorCare in Potomac, Md.

In sad news, **Marshall Berman**, an author, academic, philosopher and lyrical defender of modernism, Karl Marx and his native New York City, passed away from a heart attack on September 11 in Manhattan. He was 72. Marshall's death was announced by City College, where he had taught since 1967 and was a distinguished professor of political science. His son, Danny Berman, said the heart attack occurred while Marshall was eating breakfast with a friend at a restaurant he loved, Metro Diner on Broadway at West 100th Street.

Marshall's best-known book, *All That Is Solid Melts Into Air: The Experience of Modernity*, was published in 1982 and took its name from a line in *The Communist Manifesto*. Reviewing it in *The New York Times*, John Leonard called it "brilliant and exasperating."

In addition to his son, Marshall is survived by his wife, Shellie Sclan, and another son, Eli Tax-Berman.

A full obituary can be found in *The New York Times* of September 15.

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Peter Berman wrote to suggest that members of our class might enjoy "checking out my new sculpture website at peterberman.net. My 3-D printer arrives at the end of the month and then I will be in business!"

As I leafed through the Style section of *The New York Times* one Sunday in September, I came upon a wonderful photograph of **Jerry Speyer,** smiling broadly with other city luminaries at the National September 11 Memorial & Museum benefit dinner at the Waldorf Astoria.

It is with great sadness that I inform you that **Robert B. Glassman,** professor of psychology, died on April 27, 2013, after suffering an aortic dissection. In the words of Stephen D. Schutt, president of Lake Forest College, where Bob had taught since 1969: "Bob was a deeply dedicated teacher, a remarkably productive scholar and a beloved community member who graced our campus for more than 40 years. He will be sorely missed."

A native of Brooklyn, Bob was a proud graduate of Brooklyn Technical H.S. and earned a Ph.D. in physiological psychology from Penn. In 1974 Lake Forest granted him tenure, and in 1983 he was promoted to full professor. He chaired the psychology department for multiple terms.

Bob was a man of wide-ranging interests and broad expertise. His research areas included neuroscience, working memory capacity, theories of learning, theories of brain organization, religion and science, among others. He wrote dozens of articles, reviews and experimental studies in leading journals and received competitive research grants from the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Mental Health, the State of Illinois and others.

Bob taught a broad range of courses including "Introduction to Psychology," "Developmental Psychology," "Neuroscience, Learning and Memory," "Persuasion and Truth in Sales Communications," "Robots and Brains: Fantasies and Facts" and "Science and Religion: Searching for Humanity."

Early in his teaching career, Bob commented, "I take teaching seriously … [and] try to make clear exactly what I do not know as well as what I do know; we [my students and I] thus learn together."

Recently one of his students wrote, "Professor Glassman was extremely funny, nice, helpful and easy to be around. It was a joy to be in his class. … He provokes open discussion … and embraces new ideas and perspectives. …I was excited to come to class."

Bob is survived by his wife, Harriet; their children, Mark in Washington, D.C., Jill in Santa Cruz, Calif., and Dan in Los Angeles; and five grandchildren.

As for me, all's well in Vermont. Our garden has provided heaps of blueberries, endless tomatoes and cucumbers as well as basil, mint, peppers (green and black), some carrots and lettuce, and mountains of lemon balm, which we have no idea what to do with.

Please don't be shy. Write us about yourself and your family.

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With the launch of the academic year the Class of '63 has again started up its monthly lunches, and I'm happy to report that they are better attended than ever. You really should join us! Details are at the end of the column.

In August **Doron Gopstein** and I enjoyed taking part in Convocation, a ceremony that kicks off the academic year and welcomes the incoming first-years. We marched behind our decade's flag, along with other members of the '60s-era classes, in the Alumni Procession, then we listened as the deans greeted the new Columbians. The Class of 2017 is an impressive group.

As I write, I look forward to a great Homecoming and a record turnout from our class. I predict we will beat Penn and that you will all be there. By the time you read this, we will know the truth.

I was so busy describing our wonderful reunion in the last issue that I forgot to fill you in on some great news. We set a record for the most unrestricted funds raised for the Columbia College Fund by a class in its 50th anniversary year. Thank you for donating $1,988,213. This beat the previous record by more than $850,000. (Too bad we couldn't come up with the extra $11,787 in time to make it an even $2 million!) The College Fund received donations from 187 classmates. Overall, 206 classmates donated $6,052,561 in total gifts and pledges to the University. The participation rate for our class was 37 percent based on 558 active alumni. Not too shabby (and thank you all for your generosity!) but it still leaves us with a good goal for this year — let's make sure we break 40 percent participation.

Peter Zimroth was named to monitor the New York Police Department's controversial stop-and-frisk policy. *The New York Times* reported on August 13: "Mr. Zimroth, a lifelong New Yorker, said on Monday that he was 'honored' that the judge in the federal stop-and-frisk case, Shira A. Scheindlin, had selected him. He got her call about a week and a half ago, he said, met with the judge in her chambers, and accepted. 'I have always loved public service,' he said from a lakeside cottage in New Hampshire. 'It has been very important to me in my life.'"

To the *New York Daily News*, he stated, "I am going to be listening in the beginning of this. I'm going to be taking arguments from people who have stakes in this — the Police Department and others." The judge, he noted, "made clear that this is not an adversarial position. That's not my role. I am in a position of trying to help solve a problem, and that's what I'm going to do."

David Orme-Johnson writes in response to my question about what the College meant to us. "The first thing that comes to mind is that Columbia gave me a benchmark for how the top minds in the world think. I found that it was broad comprehension, a command of the facts and a sometimes disarming simplicity and straightforwardness. When you are from [smaller towns and places other than NYC], like El Paso, Texas, you don't know what the level is of the people in your life. I discovered, for example, that my science prodigy older brother, W.H. Orme-Johnson III, was a world-class mind and, sure enough, he became a tenured chemistry professor at MIT. Columbia gave me a framework for evaluating who is for real and who is worth listening to. And it gave us living examples of what to aspire to in our lives.

"And then, of course, it gave us a wonderful framework of knowledge, including the fundamental ideas, music and art underpinning Western Civilization, by which to understand the world, question its assumptions and hopefully move forward.

"Finally, it gave us a great set of friends to experience that most seminal time with, the best of which was my Vassar-educated wife, Rhoda, whom I never would have met if I were not at Columbia. And Columbia is in New York City!"

Richard Wells writes, "Upon graduation I joined the nascent Peace Corps and spent nearly two years living and working alone in a tiny village high in the Andes Mountains (about 4,300 meters). After my stint was over I returned to the United States to attend Harvard Law, from which I graduated in 1968. Since then I have practiced law, served in government and been an entrepreneur. Just shy of my 60th birthday I completed a two-year course to become a paramedic and then began working full-time in New York City and Westchester. I received my state certificate to practice shortly before the terrible events of 9-11 and worked there for much of the first week until it became sadly apparent that paramedics were not needed. After a few years as a paramedic I concentrated on working with neonates, wee little bits of fluff, some below one kilo in weight.

"I have been married for 47 years. My wife, Jan, spent nearly 30 years in elective local and regional public office, winning 11 consecutive elections. We have two children and two grandchildren in elementary school.

"Now we are retired and spend five months a year at our home on a lake in the Adirondack Mountains, which has the added attraction of being within shouting distance of our grandchildren, who often visit.

"Until recently I was an avid skier, both Nordic and Alpine, a hiker, a camper and a sculler, but age has slowly eliminated those joys, remitting me to my restored mahogany speed boat, an inboard that makes a heart-stopping rumble when cruising.

"I am in frequent touch with **Don Margolis**, who is my first cousin and with whom I have been good friends since childhood."

Tom Bailey writes that after graduation and his commissioning in the Navy, he spent four years flying, sailing, getting married, having a son and applying to medical school: "I did pass **Jeff Thompson** a few times in the mid-Atlantic and we sent messages back and forth. With my Columbia degree and four years of maturity, I was admitted to the Albany Medical College in January 1967, the same time my son, Rick, was born. Four years later, I happily graduated with Junior AOA, summa cum laude, and a second child. I took an ophthalmology residency at Albany with one of the top ophthalmologists in the country.

"It has been a rewarding career. The first intraocular lens implants in upstate New York were done by our group. For several years in the early 1980s, we were the only ophthalmologists allowed to do implants in the Albany Medical

Center Hospital. I was privileged to do the first implant in our V.A. Hospital in 1983. As an associate professor in the eye department at the Albany Medical Center, I worked with many residents on their first transplants and helped with many eye trauma cases through the level 1 Trauma Center. In more than 40 years in practice, I restored vision to more than 9,000 eyes. Being able to change someone's life in such a positive way is an unbelievable feeling.

"Through the years, I have been on many committees and boards. At the end of my surgical career, several years ago, I was chief to the eye department and chairman of the medical staff at the Albany Medical Center South Clinical Campus, which is our eye surgery hospital. I work four days a week and fortunately have not had any medical problems to make me do otherwise.

"My main accomplishment, however, is my family. Lynn, my wife of 49 years, is doing high-end Alzheimer's intravenous drug research. My oldest son, Rick (now a lieutenant colonel), had an Army ROTC scholarship at Ithaca and received a Bronze Star for his duty as operations officer in 2006–07 at the Combat Support Hospital in Tikrit, Iraq. He has a daughter in Boston. My daughter, Debi, is an ob/gyn and delivery room nurse with three great athletic kids and a husband who is a lawyer with Boise, Schiller & Flexner here in Albany. My youngest son, Mike, is a cardiac rehabilitation specialist with two sons who also live here.

"We have been lucky enough to have the health and time to take educational trips around the world. We have been to China, Russia, Africa and Greece, among other places. Also, we have gone down the Colorado River twice (once with **Dick Kelly** and his wife, Shari). Spare time is spent at Killington, Vt. (still ski); Marco Island, Fla.; and Schroon Lake, N.Y.

"We have been blessed by the great start we had at Columbia and at 'the 533 Club,' the apartment on 112th Street (Jeff Thompson '83, **Dick Kelly, Jim Katzoff** and Dave **Dotson**), where she and I met."

Zev-Bar Lev writes, "Inspired by Albert Einstein (and former roommate **Dick Goldwater**), I repeat my almost unheard toast to Columbia at the 50th reunion.

"The greatest bounty I got from Columbia was my very own Barnard girl, my wife, Shoshana '63 Barnard (née Jane Wirth), who would years later bring me out of my five-month coma. Having loved kindergarten, I had stayed [in school] through a Ph.D. in linguistics and a 35-year career as professor. But Columbia was the highlight. There I learned enough critical thinking to allow the next stage in our lives. For, returning from a year of study in the USSR, my wife and I were able to find our way to the text that formed the character of my 'role model,' Bertrand Russell. This world-famous atheist and nonconformist, growing up in the home of his Protestant aunt, defined his life by a single verse in Exodus: 'Don't follow the many to do evil,' which is good advice even if it does come from the Bible! This led us to the study of Hebrew and practice of Judaism and moving to Israel, where we lived for six years. I became a Torah reader and Hebrew teacher. Visit my website at languagebazaar.com for some of my innovations in language teaching and a lecture on Judaism and science that I gave to a world religions class, where I explain the TUOT (pronounced 'toot'): the Theory of the Universe and Other Things, with its Fifth Dimension. Feel free to get in touch: zev.bar-lev@sdsu.edu."

Remember, our regular class lunches at the Columbia University Club of New York are always a great place to reconnect. If you're in NYC, try to make one; it's always the second Thursday of the month. Check out cc63ers.com for details.

In the meantime, let us know what you are up to, how you're doing and what's next.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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The serious job of planning our 50th Alumni Reunion Weekend is under way. As I reported in the last column, **Steve Case** has agreed to chair the Reunion Committee, and he is getting help. As of this writing, an ad hoc committee has met twice in conference space graciously provided by **Steve Rodner** at his law firm in Manhattan. Subcommittees have been formed, and we plan to meet again before the winter holidays.

So far, those involved in the planning are **Joel Abramson, Adam Bender, Marty Isserlis, Howard Jacobson, Gil Kahn, Fred Kantor, Beril Lapson, Peter Lowitt, Marshall Meyer, Jeff Newman, Merv Rothstein, Dan Schechter, Steve Solomon, Peter Thall, Allen Tobias, Ivan Weissman** and **Marty Weinstein.** Paul Neshamkin '63, who helped organize his 50th reunion, also has been very helpful.

If you have suggestions for the reunion, or want to go a step further and participate in the planning either in person or by conference call, please contact me or either of the Alumni Office staff contacts listed at the top of the column. A 50th reunion is special for many reasons. Let's make it memorable.

Bill Wargo writes from South Burlington, Vt., that he earned a master's from the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter and a J.D. from NYU Law. He has counseled foster children, drug addicts, disabled veterans, Bowery alcoholics and people in crisis. As an attorney, Bill has represented poor people living on Manhattan's Lower East Side, prison inmates, a municipality in Vermont and the Vermont Health Department. For more than 20 years he also has taught law at a number of colleges in Vermont.

Bill and his wife, Susan, have been married for 38 years. He adds, "Our daughter, Emily, has a master's in teaching with technology (yes, there is such a degree now), and she is an e-learning professional at a local college. Our son, Ben, has a civil engineering degree and is serving in the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic. He designed and supervised the construction of a water system that is providing clean, running water to people who never had such a luxury (to them)."

John Cirigliano was in New York City from Lexington, Ky., for Homecoming and other Columbia activities.

Beril Lapson has been traveling for business and pleasure to Mexico, Switzerland, Thailand and Turkey. **Allen Tobias** traveled to Israel and later to Boston, where he visited his son, David, who is in law school at Northeastern. At this writing, **Dan Schechter** is on a hunting trip in England.

For 15 years **Peter Thall,** an attorney in New York, has been special music counsel for all events, including television, held in the United States by Victoria's Secret.

Steve Rodner, like Peter an intellectual property lawyer in New York City, is a proud grandfather of two.

Five Columbians attended the bat mitzvah of **Ivan Weissman**'s daughter, Julia: **Howard Jacobson, Gil Kahn, Steve Singer,** Lee Lowenfish '63 and I. Mazel tov.

On November 1, 1963, under the *Spectator* headline, "Bunuel, Bresson, Kurosawa at Film Festival," **Philip Lopate** wrote a review of the first New York Film Festival. While a "lack of both time and money" forced Phil to attend only 10 of the 21 films shown, he found the festival "an exciting, frequently rewarding experience." The review concludes with the "hope that its organizers will continue to bring to America as many exceptional films as they did this year."

Fifty years later, the festival has become one of the four most important film festivals in the world and Phil continues to celebrate — he has written a behind-the-scenes history of the festival as part of the recently published *New York Film Festival Gold: A 50th Anniversary Celebration.*

I am saddened to report that **Barry Shapiro** and **Gene Meyer** informed me of the July death of **Ed Leavy.** Gene writes: "I was fortunate to see Ed [the day before his death] at his final residence, ironically or perhaps fittingly, at one of the assisted-living group homes he established in the Maryland suburbs.

"Ed was a wonderful raconteur, intellect and fighter for justice as an immigration lawyer and, formerly, as the D.C. regional director of the Anti-Defamation League. Even as his health failed, he never lost his sense of humor, and he fought long and hard to live life to the longest and to the fullest. He loved Columbia, from which his son Charlie Katz-Leavy '02 also graduated, as did his father, Maurice '27, '29L (with Jacques Barzun '27, '32 GSAS). Ed greatly appreciated the love and support of his wife, Judy Katz-Leavy. He also leaves another son, Neal Kayastha, and a daughter, Gabriella Katz. May his memory be a blessing."

Requiesat in pacem.

[Editor's note: See Obituaries.]

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Mike Cook, one of several of you who keeps me nourished with tidbits about our class, produced this effusion of praise for our ranks:

"Some classmates once complained that there were no 'captains of industry' in our class. At our class lunch on April 5, however, when retired U.S. Senior District Judge **A. Howard Matz** joined us, it struck me that we do, in fact, have many accomplished classmates. Howie told us that he was about to retire from the bench, having been a U.S. district judge in Los Angeles for about 20 years. He was considering the next chapter in his life. Howie's description of the ugly judicial

confirmation process was riveting. For the benefit of our non-lawyer classmates, Howie is a highly regarded jurist. Our judicial system was lucky to have him.

"Recent issues of *The New Yorker* also mentioned classmates. In a July 1 article, 'The Lyme Wars,' author Michael Specter said that 'Lyme [disease] was all but unknown until 1977, when **Allen Steere,** a rheumatologist at Yale, produced the first definitive account of the infection.' In a June 24 article, 'Before Night Falls,' author Dr. Jerome Groopman '72, '76 P&S mentioned **Dennis Selkoe,** co-director of The Center For Neurologic Diseases at Brigham and Women's Hospital, as belonging to the group of Alzheimer's disease researchers who 'contend that the beta-amyloid protein is the key to understanding the disease,' believing 'that the protein can be toxic, and that plaque deposits interfere with the transmission of signals at the synapses between neurons, causing dementia.' Groopman visited the center's laboratory, where Dennis took him to a kind of 'brain bank' for researchers — a large room filled with freezers that stored cross-sectioned brain tissue from dozens of people who had suffered from Alzheimer's.

"Plus, of course, **David Denby** '66J is a regular film critic for *The New Yorker*.

"**John R. Zeisel** is president of Hearthstone Alzheimer Care, one of the country's leading providers of Alzheimer treatment centers.

"**Stephen A. Merrill** is executive director for scientific technology and economic policy at The National Academies in Washington, D.C.

"**Barry Kamins** is the administrative judge for criminal matters for the Second Judicial District and for the Criminal Court of the City of New York, having managed a successful criminal law practice and been president of the New York City Bar Association.

"**Elliot N. Dorff** is a director and distinguished professor of philosophy at American Jewish University.

"**Flemming (Nick) L. Norcott** is a justice on the Supreme Court of Connecticut.

"**Richard Taruskin** is a professor of musicology at UC Berkeley and has received many awards for his scholarship on historical musicology.

"These classmates have been modest enough not to trumpet their accomplishments to us but I would love to know if other classmates can tell us more about them. I'd also welcome additional names; I know there are more industry leaders among us!"

Shortly after Mike furnished his note, the L.A. law firm Bird Marella announced that Howie (by then retired from his judgeship) was to rejoin the firm as senior counsel. He will be involved in representing clients in areas such as federal investigations and serving as neutral in arbitrations and mediations as well as serving as a special master, and sharing his rich experiences as guidance to the firm's younger attorneys. The press release also announced that Howie intends to contribute to the practice of law by advocating for the judiciary and offering pro bono and community services in the interests of civic betterment.

Those of us at the April 5 class lunch in New York can attest to the little dose of civic betterment we received merely from being in Howie's presence. As I wrote to Howie afterward, the tone of our informal discussion was noticeably elevated and scintillating, and the only difference that I could perceive between that lunch and previous ones was his presence.

As a follow-up to Mike's reference to **Allen Steere,** a picture of Allen (looking youthful in 1976) appeared in *The New York Times* on September 19 — the date on which I am writing this column — in an obituary for Dr. Stephen E. Malawista '58 P&S, who with Allen co-led the team at the Yale School of Medicine that is widely credited with defining Lyme disease.

Robert W. Gunn, who was featured in our Class Notes in the Fall 2013 issue, has an updated LinkedIn profile. Bob's profile discloses that he is now the director of the Blanton-Peale Institute & Counseling Center Pastoral Care and Counseling Program (English) in the greater New York City area. Bob's retirement marches on!

Mike Cook also sent an article by Dan Hofstadter '66 that appeared in the *Wall Street Journal* of July 27–28. The article, "On Portraits of Italian Fascism," was a review of five books, published between 1947 and 2006, by Iris Origo, Bernard Berenson, George Santayana, Percy Winner and Luigi Barzini Jr. '30J. I recommend the piece for Dan's elegant writing style.

Richard Kagan (kagan@jhu.edu) says he was prompted to write by what he read in the Summer 2013 issue: "Since recent posts have all dealt with retirement, I will chime in on this subject as well. After 41 years of rewarding service as a history professor at Johns Hopkins, I retire, effective tomorrow, June 30. But as I have also been elected to a professorship in what is called The Academy at Johns Hopkins, other, still largely unspecified duties await me. And much like **Stan Sesser,** my freshman roommate, I expect to spend much of my retirement doing much the same thing I did over my career at JHU: reading and writing books and essays related in different ways to what has been and remains my primary area of interest — the history of Spain, Spanish America and the Atlantic World.

"At the same time, I will be getting to know a new city, Philadelphia, where I recently relocated with my wife of 30 years, Marianna Shreve Simpson, an art historian specializing in Islamic art. Here, surprising as it may seem, the two of us live in the same building as our son, Loren (28). In his capacity as a financial adviser, Loren assures me that I will not go broke even as retirement beckons. I am not so confident, and if need be I am gearing up to prepare stacks of Spanish-style tortillas and sell them, still warm, at the farmers market that gathers on Saturday mornings in nearby Rittenhouse Square."

Richard Kagan '65 is getting to know a new city, Philadelphia, where he recently relocated with his wife of 30 years.

One of the happy perquisites of being class correspondent is that I get to correspond with so many of you. **Steve Shama** (steveshama@aol.com) took this a step further. He was coming to New York for a conference and arranged for us to meet for a drink in early August. We had a really good talk and here is Steve's summary of that conversation:

"We spoke for more than an hour reminiscing about Columbia. We also introduced into our conversation moments about life and retirement. I realized how privileged we were to have gone to Columbia and how great the Core Curriculum was. Before I went to Columbia I was just a simple boy from Brooklyn. After the Core I was a young man with opinions and perspectives on life. My Columbia education truly did make me as close to a whole man as I will ever be.

"You and I didn't talk too much about what we had done after graduation but we fast forwarded to the present. I told you I had retired from a 30-year career as a dermatologist and felt quite blessed. I mentioned that the day I decided to retire, I had written on a small piece of paper on my desk, in between patients, 'I don't want to die on the job.' Where that thought came from, I will never know — but it was the beginning of a three-year process to end what had always been a beautiful career. I realized that medicine and dermatology were what I did but not who I was. It did not define me. If I retired from my medical profession, I would still be me. I was going to retire no matter what.

"My wife and I went to a financial planner who said that if we wanted to retire at 66 and live the rest of our lives with the same standard of living, and live until 95, we would need several million dollars, anticipating a conservative investment return rate of 7 percent. It all sounded reasonable except for the several million dollars! I would have to work even harder to generate that amount of money. I know of many of my colleagues who are absolutely miserable in their careers and would have to continue to work for many, many years to amass a sum of money that would last into their 90s.

"But what happens if you lower your standard of living, don't plan to spend as much money per year, are not so generous with the children and pay simply for college and not graduate school, and plan to die or at least run out of money by the ripe old age of 85? I asked the financial planner about this approach. He said I could retire in six months!

"At a certain point in all of our lives, hopefully we will come to the realization that life is to be enjoyed and that the goal of life is to be happy. I include generosity in this goal. I wonder how many of our colleagues believe that the workaholic ethic and obligations to others are what life is all about. May I suggest that there is another perspective and that we all should consider it … gratefulness, gratitude and the pursuit of happiness. I now have a career in professional speaking during which I speak of these lovely moments in life.

"I have two children, Josh (34), who lives in Boston, and Julie (32), who lives in Los Angeles — and of course my wife, Jeannie Lindheim, who shall remain ageless. Since my retirement from medicine, Jeannie and I have been living in Parkinsville, Vt., a lovely small town in central Vermont, where no one cares what degrees you have earned. They simply ask, are you a steward of the land we call Earth? I like that! I feel at home.

"Wishing all of our classmates peace, happiness and good health."

Finally, we received some sad

Stepping Out with "Dr. Banjo," Pete Wernick '66

By Michael R. Shea '10 Arts

From playing College Walk as part of the Morningside Mountain Boys in 1962, to performing live with Steve Martin on *The Late Show with David Letterman,* **Pete Wernick '66, '73 GSAS** has lived and breathed bluegrass music for more than 40 years.

The International Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame inductee formed his first real band at Columbia, rehearsing in Ferris Booth Hall, and soon after hosted a bluegrass show on WKCR — the only one of its kind in New York. "At 17 or 18 I became important, if you can call it that, as the guy who played bluegrass on the radio," he says.

Suddenly the kid who grew up near the Bronx's Van Cortlandt Park with a math teacher father and librarian mother — a kid who taught himself banjo by jamming with friends, and who was fast-tracked through junior high school and enrolled at Columbia at 16 — was backstage at music festivals in the South and the standard-bearer of bluegrass music for the New York metro area. He interviewed the Stanley Brothers, the Greenbriar Boys, and Bill Monroe and his Blue Grass Boys, names that would come to define the genre, and broadcast them all citywide.

"A friend calls me 'the Forrest Gump of bluegrass,' because I was able to get my face into so many situations," Wernick says. "Rather than a fan who just gets an autograph, I got an interview, and then it ended up on the radio or in a book."

After majoring in sociology at Columbia he stayed on, earning a Ph.D. in the same subject and soon after his moniker, "Dr. Banjo." In 1970 he moved upstate to take a research position at the International Population Program at Cornell, and on a trip to Boulder he met his wife, Joan Leonard. They've been together more than 40 years and have a 31-year-old son, Will, a filmmaker in Los Angeles.

In Ithaca, Wernick founded the band Country Cooking and started making music for the then-new label Rounder Records. Around the same time he wrote what became the second instructional book for bluegrass banjo. "I unlocked the mystery of the Scruggs style, and it sold well," he says, referring to the late, legendary Earl Scruggs and his revolutionary high-speed, three-fingered picking style. "I realized that with the royalties flowing, I could start a full-time music career without having to be dead broke."

With the banjo book selling, he and his wife moved to Colorado to do just that, settling down by a dirt road outside Boulder. Soon thereafter Wernick produced his first solo record, *Dr. Banjo Steps Out,* and put together a band named Hot Rize, after the secret ingredient in Martha White Self-Rising Flour, an iconic sponsor of Nashville's Grand Ole Opry.

With Tim O'Brien on lead vocals, mandolin and fiddle, Wernick on banjo and harmony vocals, Charles Sawtelle on guitar and vocals and Nick Forster — who went on to host the nationally syndicated radio show eTown — on bass, Hot Rize climbed to the top of the bluegrass mountain. Through the 1980s they regularly appeared on NPR's *A Prairie Home Companion* and The Nashville Network's *Ralph Emery Show,* and often appeared on the television show *Austin City Limits.* Hot Rize produced nine albums and became a hit international band, playing 47 states and 15 foreign countries and becoming one of the best-selling bluegrass acts of all time.

"The thing about Pete," Forster says,



Pete Wernick '66, '73 GSAS (far left) performs with (left to right) Nick Forster, Tim O'Brien and Bryan Sutton at the Telluride Bluegrass Festival in Colorado.

PHOTO: NATHAN RIST

"Pete is an organizer; he's an instigator. He has a long history of making things happen. He did all the bookings in the early years back when it was a loose commitment for the rest of us. The only reason we stayed together was Pete kept booking gigs."

He also authored books and produced DVDs on bluegrass and continued to teach, eventually developing the Wernick Method for bluegrass, which emphasizes group jam sessions rather than solo practice. Today the Wernick Method makes up the bulk of his business, drbanjo.com. He struck up a friendship with Martin, a longtime banjo player, after the success of Hot Rize.

"I stumbled across Hot Rize when I got Sirius Bluegrass radio. Pete's playing was superbly clear and melodic. Always interesting and attractive to the ear," Martin says. "Pete is a great teacher and opinionator. I have consulted with him many times on songs I was writing and playing technique on stage. He's a good adviser."

Wernick helped Martin with his banjo playing, and Hot Rize played the actor's wedding to Anne Stringfield. In spring 2005, Martin asked Wernick if he wanted to join him and Scruggs (who died in 2012) at The New Yorker Festival for a talk on bluegrass and banjos. As a sort of last-minute bonus, the Letterman people called — having read of the festival talk — and asked them to play the show.

"When I think back to my Columbia days," Wernick says, "if I thought in my late 50s I'd be on the equivalent of Johnny Carson's show playing the banjo with Earl Scruggs, the greatest banjo player in the history of the planet, I'd say, 'What else? Am I also going to be the king of the world?'"

To see Wernick perform, including his turn on The Late Show with David Letterman, *go to Web Extras at college.columbia.edu/cct.*

Michael R. Shea '10 Arts *is a freelance writer in New York City.*

news from Dr. **Larry Guido** '69 P&S. He writes, "On September 18, 2013, my dear wife of 41 years, Jane Seymour Guido, passed away in her sleep. She had painfully suffered for many years with two incurable auto-immune diseases. I don't know how she put up with me for 41 years!

"The window that opened shortly beforehand was the birth of my fourth grandchild, Henry Wyatt Vincent Pascal, on July 1. He is the first child of my son, Laurance Jr. '00, SIPA '01, and his wife, Joanna (a Ph.D. neuropsychologist at Penn).

"Laurance, Joanna and Henry, along with our daughter, Pia, and her children, Raynie, Peter and Charlie Murphy (Peter and Charlie are 7-year-old identical twins), joined my wife and me on Nantucket for three weeks, starting in mid-August. Jane was so very happy to hold and love the newest member of our family and especially overjoyed that her entire family was gathered together in the very special town of Sconset, where we have been summering since about 1980. The warmth and love she felt was permanently and clearly expressed on her face during those few weeks. That was indeed a blessing and a great gift for all of us. I'm so very grateful for that and for the fact that she is now indeed free from pain.

"So now I have an entire new calculus to ponder for my future. As many wiser than I have noted: No major decisions should be made in the first year following the death of a dearly loved one.

"When a dear one passes, the memories become treasures. Keep those treasures close to your heart.

"I send my best regards to our classmates."

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Gentlemen, it has been a year since I first reached out to you directly for information on your lives. The initial response was outstanding but now things seem to be tapering off. Remember, you don't have to provide earth-shattering news every time; an update or an interesting/fun anecdote would be fine. Tell us how you misplaced your dentures and then sat on them, or something else along those lines.

Tom Chorba and his wife, Celeste, suffered substantial damage to their Fire Island house as a result of Hurricane Sandy. Tom has now been engaged in more than a year of battle with various bureaucracies to gain permission to rebuild as well as to receive compensation. We can only imagine what so many others in this position, who don't have Tom's tenacity, are dealing with. On a brighter note, Tom is setting up a reading club to engage with some of our humanities classics. First on the list is *Oedipus Rex*, and joining Tom will be me and **Harvey Kurzweil** and our wives, Kathy and Barbara. I'll let you know if we pass.

More on Harvey: He and Barbara are new double grandparents. Daughter Emily '00 and her husband, Grady, in Portland, Ore., welcomed twins Edie and Sam in April. They also have a 3-year-old, Eva. Harvey and I attended the home football opener against Monmouth, where we took advantage of Ed Botwinik '56's parking pass, as Harvey's spot is MIA due to boat house construction. We had a nice chat prior to kickoff with Ed Malmstrom '65 and Tom O'Connor '63.

Sad news about one of our classmates came to me from Walter Stein '63. He writes, "**Leonard Don Diego Jr.** had been a friend and neighbor of mine for years. He passed away of liver cancer at home on September 17, 2013. He fought it to the end but was sent home on hospice from Memorial-Sloan Kettering. Lenny was a volunteer EMT for years, and we rode together on a volunteer EMS crew. He was a fascinating person and storyteller with a million friends. At his funeral, I sang *Sans Souci* and thanked him for his service to alma mater through the Alumni Representative Committee, of which I was regional chair for 28 years. We will miss him here in Monmouth County, N.J."

Last summer, Larry Nelson '66 made it halfway (as planned) around the American Great Loop in his 48-ft. motor yacht.

Larry Nelson, a former Navy SEAL writes, "This summer I made it halfway (as planned) around the American Great Loop in my 48-ft. motor yacht *Grandad and Me* [RF: This is the navigation route around the eastern United States via the Mississippi, the Great Lakes and the Intra-Coastal Waterway.] My grandson, Clayton (13), joined me in Oswego, N.Y., for a rough ride across Lake Ontario followed by smooth sailing across Canada, the length of Lake Michigan, across Illinois and down the Mississippi to a stop south of St. Louis, where he had to leave to go back to school. The boat is 'on the hard' in Demopolis, Ala., waiting for Clayton to finish school so we can pick up again next summer and cross our wake in Solomon's Island, Md. There are lots of pictures (and I hope not too much narrative) on grandadandclay.blogspot.com."

Another voice from the past has called out. Former classmate John Longueil writes, "I spent a wonderful freshman year, in so many ways, at Columbia. Coming from the innocence of pastoral Rockland County, N.Y., into the midst of Manhattan was a true intellectual awakening, and I fondly recall long evenings debating Locke vs. Hobbes in The Gold Rail or in the lounges of Hartley Hall. Unfortunately, my fascination for the big city and all it entailed cost me the concentration necessary to maintain my grades, and I left after spring semester. My sincere compliments go to all of you who stuck it out. I also want to say how impressed I am with the low-key, modest way the contributors to this column typically describe their accomplishments.

"Since leaving the College, I have led a peripatetic life. I spent several years in the grand journey of self-discovery. I actually earned my sustenance for a time as a model for college art classes, before diet and pounds reared their ugly head. I also was employed for several years by an import firm and traveled extensively throughout Africa, picking up several native dialects in my journeys, including Swahili. I obtained an accounting degree from a local college and have managed a small investment fund for 37 years. Nothing spectacular but it pays the bills and allows me to visit excellent foreign museums for a month every year so that I can indulge my love of early Impressionism. I also teach art history (unpaid) at a local night school. I had a close financial call several years ago when I lost a considerable amount to a well-known and now incarcerated fund owner I thought was a close friend. I have somewhat recovered but it is still occasionally a struggle. Caveat investor."

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It's been 50 years since the March on Washington, the assassination of President Kennedy and … our

arrival as freshmen on campus. Alas, I only have two pieces of news, both of which reflect on the loss of classmates.

Jeffrey Herrmann writes, "In the November/December 2010 Class Notes there was a long communication from me about a group of us from the Class of '67 who had been getting together for dinner and conversation for a number of years. I now have to convey the sad news that **Alan Candiotti,** one of our group, died suddenly on August 19, just days before he was to assume the position of interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Drew University. We will never forget Al's brilliance and wit and shall miss him dearly."

Alan came to Columbia after graduating at 16 as the valedictorian of Francis Lewis H.S. in Queens; he earned a B.A. in mathematics followed in 1973 by a Ph.D. from Harvard. He arrived on the Drew campus in 1980 and was a professor of mathematics and computer science before being named assistant v.p. for university technology. At Drew, he earned the President's Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1992. Alan lived in Bernardsville, N.J., and was his family's historian, an active member of Congregation B'nai Israel in Basking Ridge, N.J., and a lifelong Yankees fan.

Bob Burdette wrote, "When the Summer issue of *Columbia College Today* arrived, I noticed with great sadness the passing of **Joel Linsider.** He was the gentlest human being I believe I have ever met. He was a close friend of **Mayer Freed,** who passed away in 2010. The three of us had many long conversations in Furnald Hall when we were freshmen. I joined them occasionally for a meal at the Jewish Theological Seminary, a few blocks away from campus. I also once visited the conservative congregation where they worshipped at their invitation. They were both extraordinary men.

"I have been retired for more than 11 years. I spent my career as a legislative attorney for the Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress. Through the years I traveled extensively. My favorite destination was French Polynesia. I hope to return. Recently, I vicariously visited Bora Bora by purchasing a watercolor by an artist whose work I discovered and bought in 1982 in Tahiti. Even paintings can conjure up the lush tropical beauty of the place for me. It has been quite some time since I have visited New York."

Please write. You can send a note to my email address, at the top of the column, or by using *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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Happy holidays and best wishes for the New Year! Hard to believe we're about to roll into 2014. As you can see, we have an empty column but — after such a successful reunion — I suppose it's OK for us to take a breather. I want full reports for future issues, though. Please write me at either address at the top of the column or use *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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On August 26, I represented our class and co-represented our decade in the Alumni Procession at Convocation. Convocation, which this year welcomed the Class of 2017, cannot match the majesty and excitement of Class Day, when a larger group of alumni march in honor of the graduates in cap and gown. Still, on a sunny late summer day, much like a sunny spring day, the campus looks great. And there was much excitement among those starting their College experience. Even as we approach our 45th reunion I am sure many of us recall with fondness at least some part of our "Freshman Week" — a name and set of events quite different from today's orientation.

Speaking of reunion, which is scheduled for Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1, planning continues apace. This column is filed a bit more that two months ahead of publication, and I expect you will by now have received updates on specific events. **Mike Schell** has again graciously agreed to host our opening cocktail reception on Thursday. We will gather on campus on Friday night for another reception. On Saturday, we will have both a class lunch and a class dinner. I am pleased to report that **Nick Garaufis** has agreed to be our dinner speaker. He is currently a U.S. district judge for the Eastern District of New York.

I sometimes have the unhappy task of informing you of the passing of a classmate, and I am especially saddened to note the passing of **Mark Drucker**. I invite classmates to share remembrances of Mark. He will be remembered, at the very least, as our class president both sophomore and senior years. For those (including myself) who knew Mark well and shared a close friendship with him, he will always be an important part of our College recollections; we had many discussions on matters social and political, relating both to the campus and to the larger outside world. I can easily recall his smile. For me, a treasured part of each reunion has been catching up with Mark, and it is hard to think he will not be among us next spring. The last communication I had with him was an email exchange about forming the Reunion Committee.

Ron Rosenblatt '74 TC sent his first report for *CCT*: "During the past 45 years, as I have lived my own odyssey of life, I have thoroughly enjoyed reading about the amazing accomplishments, both personal and professional, of classmates. I have never felt the need or desire to communicate or portray the long and winding path that has been my past 45 years in this forum. However, it now seems like the time to do so.

"It doesn't seem so long ago that I walked into my first CC class and realized that I was in over my head. Suffice it to say that I owe my graduation to my high school buddy and two-year roommate in Hartley Hall, **Bob Kahan** (the voice of WKCR); my senior year roommate, **Tom Garnevicus;** and close friends **Jim Alloy, Max Carey, Rick Rose** and **Marty Domres,** all of whom continually encouraged me to do the work and to have fun. I graduated on time by the barest of margins and with less than a 4.0 grade point average.

"After graduation and my failure to pass the draft board's physical standards, I married and began a quite enjoyable teaching career in a public high school. In 1974, I received a master's from TC and, with my wife, promptly packed everything we owned into our VW van and moved to Moscow (not that one), Idaho. The U of I was enamored enough with my two Columbia degrees to offer me a T.A. position and, three years later, a Ph.D.

"Then it was on to Manhattan (not that one), Kansas, and a professorship at Kansas State in education and economics. Divorced, married again (to Susy, a TV news anchor), tenured, seven more years of teaching, then gave it up to follow Susy to the anchor desk at the NBC affiliate in Des Moines. Changing professions to mortgage banking seemed like the obvious path to take (really). I started at the bottom for First Union Mortgage, then on to AmerUs, Wells Fargo, Principal Financial Group and, finally, e.v.p. at American Home Mortgage Investment Corp.; I commuted from Des Moines to New York every week for four years … pretty dumb.

"Meanwhile, Susy and I were graced with two darling daughters, one in 1987 and one in 1989. Unfortunately, neither was able to see the extraordinary advantages of a Columbia education, choosing to attend schools in Philadelphia and Boston instead. Today, one daughter works for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission chasing after bad guys who manipulate trading or do fraudulent trading in electricity and/or natural gas, while the younger one attends law school in Washington, D.C.

"Susy is retired from TV and from her second career as an executive for Planned Parenthood of the Heartland. I retired from mortgage banking, played a lot of golf, then started a financial services business with two young partners who work very hard, are fabulous at their jobs and think that I am way smarter than I really am. Please do not tell them differently! Thanks to all of you who crossed my path those four years [at CC] and helped me become the very lucky and happy man that I am today."

Roger Podesta was named Litigator of the Week by AmLaw's *Litigation Daily* on July 25. Roger is a litigation partner at Debevoise & Plimpton. He successfully represented American Airlines against negligence claims brought by the developer of the World Trade Center, who sought to hold the airlines whose planes were flown into the towers on 9-11 liable for the resulting damage to the towers. On July 18, a judge of the Southern District of New York blocked the claims.

From **William Stark,** now professor of biology at St. Louis University, come some memories of our College years: "When I was a freshman, *Marat/Sade* was a popular Broadway show (about the persecution and assassination of Jean-Paul Marat as performed by the inmates of the asylum at Clarendon under the direction of the Marquis de Sade). Initiation was not telling freshmen to change from the express to the local on the IRT at 96th Street. The local let you off at 116th and Broadway, between Columbia and Barnard. The express let you off farther east. 'Oh, there's Columbia, up that hill through that

park.' (That's Morningside Park, a no-man's land.)

"The most notable (annoying) advertisement on the radio was for Dennison, the men's clothier, Route 22, Union, N.J. — 'money talks, nobody walks' — presumably because you could only get there by car. The standard fare in Chinese 'cuisine' featured column A (cheap stuff like egg fu yung) and column B (upscale stuff like sweet and sour pork). Family dining, a few people shared a few dishes.

"Chemical Bank. If you needed money for the weekend, you better get down there around 110th Street and wait in the teller's line for half an hour. Don't try the Chemical Bank diagonally across the street; you don't have an account there. On the walk up to Columbia from 105th Street just east of Broadway was a Chock full o' Nuts, great coffee with cream and donuts. Also there was an Orange Julius, where I could pick up a large cup, whipped up with a raw egg for an extra fee, to last me through my first class. There was also a grocer, one of those famous New York ones with nice fruit stands set up on the sidewalk.

"In spring 1968, Columbia started building its new gym in the neighborhood's Morningside Park. Black students protested by taking over the arts and sciences building, and then the Students for a Democratic Society took over many other buildings. A long stand-off ended in a bloody bust. The morning after, someone played Bob Dylan's 'Desolation Row' loudly out a dorm window onto Amsterdam Avenue. The editorial in *Spectator* was blank [an empty space surrounded by a black border]. That gym was not built.

"I was home for Easter break when Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated. In Mt. Lebo, we only had the news to know what was going on, and saw many ghettos in flames. My flight back was to LaGuardia at a time when a taxi across town cost $5. As the taxi departed from the relative safety of the busily guarded corners on one avenue and plunged into the narrow and lonely streets toward the next avenue, I got pretty nervous.

"Special thanks go to Allison Steele, the night bird, the all-night DJ. She liked to play two versions of the same song back to back. So do I. I thought she liked 'Scarborough Fair' particularly, playing it twice in a row, then later found out that the version in *The Graduate* was doubled. Fly high, Allison, award winner who died young and lives in my memory each time 'The Night Bird' comes on my iPod (yes, I found her ethereal interludes on the Internet).There was a time when **Christopher Donald** said we should go see B.B. King at the Fillmore East. 'Some albino dude from Texas is opening for him.' I've seen Johnny Winter a few times since then.

"When I was courting my wife, Sharon, in 1968, her family came to New York for Thanksgiving. I took her to see Jimi Hendrix live at Philharmonic Hall [now Avery Fisher Hall] in Lincoln Center. Orchestra seats, $7.50 each. We left with only half our hearing."

Steve Steindel writes: "It has been a terrible juncture for the Pittsburgh Penguins but one fan is returning home all the same. My wife, Lisa, and I are about to exercise a reverse exodus, leaving the Boston Bruins, Patriots and Red Sox for a new home in the Squirrel Hill area of Pittsburgh, where we previously served Congregation Beth Shalom as rabbi and rebbitzen for 23 years. What could possibly be the attraction? Daughter Shiri '01 Penn and her husband, Josh Friedman, are committed to raising their three children in Pittsburgh and invited us to come. It didn't take long to realize how blessed we would be to be near them on an almost daily basis, so our answer was 'of course.' Our daughter Sara '99 and her husband, Andrew Dauber '00, have four children in Brookline, Mass., and we will visit whenever we can. Our third daughter, Sivya, a 2004 graduate of The George Washington University, and her husband, Keith, a 2003 graduate of Maryland, live in Minneapolis. We enjoy time with our grandchildren and look forward to lots of airplane connections."

From **Bob Rabinoff:** "Just wanted to brag: My daughter Eve successfully defended her Ph.D. dissertation at Boston College. She wrote on Aristotle's theory of perception and the impact it has on his ethics. She now teaches at Boston University. My son Joseph and his wife, Kirsten Wickelgren (daughter of the late Wayne Wickelgren and Norma Graham of Columbia's psychology department), are beginning their careers as assistant professors of mathematics at Georgia Tech. My son Daniel has a couple of years to go toward his doctorate in philosophy at the University of Toronto, and my daughter Shoshanah is an R.N. and mother of Nathaniel (15 months). I'm still in Fairfield, Iowa, doing freelance programming and sliding toward retirement (gasp)."

I have some good news of my own to share: My daughter, Abby Oberman '10 (now Finkel), married Bryan Finkel at the Essex House in NYC on September 28. See photo near the CC '10 column.

As this column reflects, there is news and there are memories worth sharing with classmates. May I ask you to be one of our classmates to email me an item for the next issue?

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I was overwhelmed by the enthusiastic response to my request for news. I even heard from classmates I had not heard from in a long time.

Professor **Samuel Estreicher,** a leading authority on labor and employment law, has joined Schulte Roth & Zabel as of counsel in addition to being the Dwight D. Opperman Professor of Law and director of the Center for Labor and Employment Law at NYU. Sam was editor-in-chief of the *Columbia Law Review* as well as a law clerk to Supreme Court Judge Lewis Powell Jr. I remember Sam during freshman week in Carman, when he was debating the true meaning of one of the classics that had been recommended for summer reading. Sam has reached the highest level of accomplishment in the field of law and we should all be proud of him!

Sheldon Danziger '70 is the newest president of the Russell Sage Foundation.

Another classmate of whom we should be proud is my old friend Dr. **Paul Rosen,** a double-boarded physician in family medicine and psychiatry and neurology. Paul was the principal investigator of a study looking into the utility of feverfew (*T. Parthenium*) as a safer alternative to NSAIDS for the treatment of osteoarthritis. He had a clinical trial published in *Integrative Medicine: A Clinician's Journal* in July. Paul works with an underserved patient population in the South Bronx and North Central Brooklyn in addition to conducting clinical research and teaching medical students and residents. He has a strong interest in helping develop and deliver primary care services to mentally ill patients with limited resources and limited exposure to primary care medicine. He sends a special hello to all of his fellow Bronx Science alums in the class.

Chuck Silberman and his wife, Susan, were thrilled to welcome their first grandchild, Max Hudson Goldstein, on June 27. The proud uncle is Jeff Silberman '08.

Sheldon Danziger is the new president of the Russell Sage Foundation. Previously he was the Henry J. Meyer Distinguished University Professor of Public Policy, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, and director of the National Poverty Center at Michigan.

Ralph Bradburd's book, *The Robin Hood Rules for Smart Giving*, which he co-authored with Michael Weinstein of the Robin Hood Foundation, came out in May. The book makes the case that philanthropic organizations and the donors who fund them should rely on benefit-cost analysis in allocating their resources and elaborates on ways to do those benefit-cost analyses correctly. Ralph also became the director of Williams College's Center for Environmental Studies, which offers six majors in environmental science and environmental policy and maintains a 2,600-acre forest for research and teaching. He divides his time between the center and the school's Department of Economics.

My friend **Frank Motley** reported the birth of his second great-grandchild.

Another Bronx Science friend and distinguished professor at Northwestern, **Robert Launay,** survived a heart attack in July and is now, alas, reduced to ramping down his food intake and ramping up his exercise. But at least Robert is more or less back in the groove.

Richard Smolev's second novel, *In Praise of Angels*, based upon the Credit Mobilier of America scandal surrounding the building of the transcontinental railroad, was published in July.

David Lehman says, "[At this

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writing], my *New and Selected Poems* is set to publish on November 5. A big moment in the life of a writer.

"It has been a busy year. I continue as series editor of *The Best American Poetry*, which I launched in 1988. We celebrated our 25th year with an anniversary volume of highlights from the first 25 volumes in the series. That came out in April, with selections made by former poet laureate Robert Pinsky. In September came Volume 26, *The Best American Poetry 2013*, which begins with a foreword by me (as the series editor) and an introduction by guest editor Denise Duhamel."

David also notes, "In 1970 I was lucky enough to win a Euretta J. Kellett Fellowship for two years of study at Oxford or Cambridge. I chose Clare College, Cambridge, where John Berryman had spent his seasons as a Kellett. Other noteworthy Columbia-educated poets had studied there as well. On April 23 of this year I returned to Clare at the invitation of the college's master. The poetry reading I gave in the master's lodge preceded a champagne reception in the Fellows' Garden adjacent to the Cam. The sunset was breathtaking — it was the first real spring day — and then came dinner with benedictions and toasts, a printed menu and a superb bottle of port. Made this old boy feel blessed."

Terry Bazes' book, *Lizard World: the Graphic Novel*, illustrated by Louis Netter, will be published in February. "Readers fond of dark comedy and the macabre may get a kick out of this oddly compelling (and sometimes disturbingly graphic) tale," says *Library Journal*.

Another old friend, **Dan Feldman,** sent this note: "I happily teach full-time at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and do some technical legal work one day a week for New York State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli.

"Other than having at long last returned to the general Columbia vicinity (my wife, Cecilia, and I moved to the Upper West Side in November 2012), I only have typical academic world-type news: My fifth book, *The Art of the Watchdog: Fighting Fraud, Waste, Abuse and Corruption in Government*, officially comes out January 1 but apparently the warehouses will have some copies ahead of time. My 2010 book, *Tales from the Sausage Factory: Making Laws in New York State*, was co-authored by SUNY New Paltz Professor Gerald 'Jerry' Benjamin '70 GSAS; this one, by David Eichenthal.

"I also wrote the chapter on the New York State Attorney General's Office in *The Oxford Handbook of New York State Government*, also edited by Jerry and published at the end of 2012. In July I became the perspective and commentary editor of *Public Administration Review*, the leading journal in public administration."

Anthony Grant '80 SIPA, who has lived a most interesting and exciting life, reports: "After a very long time, I visited the campus this summer to show family around. I was overcome with nostalgia. For the lion's share of the past 40 years I have worked overseas and presently work in Tanzania as managing director for Exim Bank. This year, Exim was shortlisted by *African Banker* magazine as one of the continent's top five retail banks. The bank also runs subsidiaries elsewhere in East Africa (Djibouti and Comoros Islands), so I travel frequently. Earlier, banking peers in Africa elected me president of the 16-country West African Bankers' Association. Even earlier, I held Citibank positions in Congo and Greece — both fascinating.

"Wearing other, non-banking professional hats, I have taken on consultancies in places such as Moscow and Yekaterinburg for General Motors and the State Department. Being also a SIPA graduate, I really enjoy and hope I am contributing on behalf of Columbia to the international arena."

Ralph Allemano participated in the 150th anniversary re-enactment of the Battle of Gettysburg at the end of June and beginning of July in Gettysburg, Pa. Ralph is a member of an American Civil War re-enactment society in Britain (yes!) and participates in events in the United States alongside other enthusiasts who go to great lengths to depict accurately the arms, uniforms and drill of their chosen unit. Everything is an accurate portrayal except, of course, for the British accents and the obvious age of the individuals.

Ralph's invitation to Gettsyburg came from some re-enactors he met and became fast friends with when he went to Fredericksburg, Va., in December 2012 to watch the re-enactment of the famous battle there (again, a 150th anniversary). For the Gettysburg trip, the troops camped, as did their 1863 counterparts, under primitive canvas in the woods, sleeping on straw and leaves. They assembled for three days, along with more than 10,000 other re-enactors, marched, counter-marched (usually uphill) and then went into 'battle.' On the final day, Ralph's unit, the 3rd New Jersey, stood behind a stone wall at the extreme right flank of the Union line to repulse, once again, Pickett's Charge. A great time was had by all, especially as they shook hands and embraced the 'resurrected' Rebels when the show was finally over!

Ralph adds, "How many of you out there can say you helped repulse Pickett and save the Union? Columbia was represented!"

Joel Mintz and his wife of 38 years, Meri-Jane Rochelson '71 Barnard, welcomed a second grandchild when their son, Daniel, and Daniel's wife, Sarah Allison, welcomed Karl David Mintz into the world in Ann Arbor on July 8. Joel was designated the 2012–2013 Distinguished Law Professor of the Year by Nova Southeastern University, an award given for outstanding achievement in scholarship, classroom teaching and public service. Daniel continued a family educational tradition when — like both his parents and Joel's father — he earned the terminal degree in an academic field (in his case, a Ph.D. in English and Jewish Studies from Michigan).

Edwin P. Rutan II of Park City, Utah, writes, "I retired in June after 10 years as Salt Lake City's city attorney. I also received the Utah chapter of the American Society for Public Administration's Distinguished Service Award. In addition, I'm writing a regimental history of the 179th New York Volunteers, the Civil War regiment that my great-great-grandfather served in, at 179thnyvolunteers.org."

This past summer, Arnold Horowitz '72 was on the road with his family, traveling to Prague and Berlin.

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News is light this month — just one item: Columbia University Libraries/Information Services' Center for Human Rights Documentation & Research has acquired the papers of Amnesty International activist **Joshua Rubenstein.**

Based on information from CHRDR, I report:

Josh was a staff member for Amnesty International USA (AIUSA) for 37 years, 1975–2012. He became a member of Amnesty USA in 1974, helping found Boston's Adoption Group 54. In 1975, he joined the staff and was appointed AIUSA New England coordinator. Between 1976 and 1978, Josh, on behalf of the national office, led initial efforts to organize Amnesty adoption groups in the Midwest and South. In 1983, when the regional office in Boston was enlarged, he was named Northeast regional director.

Josh's papers document his decades of AIUSA leadership, his work in developing the organization's membership and staff, and his role in organizing and leading the Northeast Regional Office, including development and event planning.

Josh noted in the press release, "I feel very honored to see my Amnesty International papers being collected so responsibly by Columbia's CHRDR. I hope that the history of AIUSA will inspire both researchers and activists to join our efforts and advance the cause of human rights."

Josh was deeply engaged in AIUSA's major programmatic initiatives such as the Campaign to Abolish the Death Penalty and the Campaign Against Torture. He worked extensively on issues related to Israel, helping to reorganize the Israeli Amnesty Section in 1985, and also conveyed AIUSA's concerns to American Jewish organizations. As a specialist on Russian and Soviet history and politics, he became a strong advocate on the behalf of prisoners of conscience in the Soviet Union. He also worked to establish and mentor an AIUSA Soviet Coordination Group in the Boston area.

An accomplished independent scholar, Josh authored the first general history of the Soviet dissident movement, *Soviet Dissidents: Their Struggle for Human Rights*. He also is the author of *Tangled Loyalties: The Life and Times of Ilya Ehrenburg* and *Leon Trotsky: A Revolutionary's Life*.

If you are not receiving the '71C eNews and would like to, please email me. You can send updates for Class Notes to either of the addresses at the top of the column or through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Remember back 47 Septembers ago, and the feelings we had, including of adventure, as we entered Columbia College. *We are still connected.*

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This past summer **Arnold Horowitz** was on the road with his family, traveling to Prague and Berlin. He writes, "The trip brought forcefully to mind the passage of time: It was my first time in Prague since 1970, when Professor Vojtech Mastny helped me get a summer

travel grant to study *Ostpolitik*. It has been 43 years — 1970 was considerably closer in time to the Munich Agreement [i.e., 1938] than it is to the present day — a sobering thought. And it was my wife's first visit to Berlin since 1983, when her family drove to East Berlin from the Soviet Union. Standing at the Brandenburg Gate (eastern side), her father told her that he might not live to see it, but surely in her lifetime the Berlin Wall would come down. He overshot — he is alive and well, and the wall has been history for more than a generation."

Looking to the next generation, Arnold notes that his older son, William, is applying to college this year, and Columbia is on the list. "Fingers crossed," he says.

When I invited **Charlie Gardner** to bring us up to date on his life, he responded, "OK, I'll bite." Charlie practices psychiatry in Greenwich, Conn. "Paid my dues as department chair at Greenwich Hospital for long enough, and gave it up. Also gave up my academic appointment at Cornell but I am still on the faculty roster at the Columbia University Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research. I want to be a simple country doc now, just taking care of people and giving them all I've learned."

Charlie is a member of weekly peer supervision and men's bible study groups, saying, "Our church and our clubs are central to our lives. … Our third kid graduated from Kenyon this year. Freedom. To celebrate, my wife, Janice, and I hiked for a week in the Dolomites in September. All three kids work in NYC, and we have a 1-year-old grandkid, Charlie Gardner (the 5th), who happily lives just down the street."

Sadness inevitably intrudes, he adds: "Both of my parents died this year. Dad had been a distinguished professor of psychiatry at Yale. That has been difficult and leaves me and my sibs to try to maintain the old family farm in the Berkshires. I'm sure we are all going through similar things."

Arthur Ensroth and his wife recently visited NYC, which evoked these thoughts: "Columbia taught me to love NYC but I prefer living in the Boston area today. We were down for the weekend to see the exhibit at the Met about American art and the Civil War. Nineteenth-century American painting is something I learned to love at Columbia, thanks to Professor of Art History Barbara Novak '50 Barnard et al. Then we went to Birdland on 44th Street to hear Pablo Ziegler and a set of nuevo tango. In 1968 I was excited about going to jazz clubs but I can better afford it now.

"We stopped in New Haven on the way home to see the recently renovated Yale University Art Gallery. My wife said, 'If Harvard and Yale have great art museums, what about Columbia?'

"I said, 'We just went to the Columbia art museum; it's at 82nd and Fifth, not on campus.'"

Reflecting on **Peter Darrow**'s recent passing, **Doug Altabef** noted, "The creeping intimations of mortality are unsettling. They also should, in my view, strengthen one's resolve to make the most of the time that we are allotted." Hence, Doug will retire from his firm at the end of the year and pursue opportunities in Israel, where he's lived for a number of years while commuting to work in NYC. "While I have enjoyed my work and have been a vital part of my firm, I feel like I am old enough and young enough to embrace new chapters. *Aliyah* [immigrating to Israel] of course is a major new chapter."

Finally, some of you undoubtedly saw **Jerry Groopman**'s October 13 review of the new book by Columbia English Professor Rachel Adams, *Raising Henry: A Memoir of Motherhood, Disability, and Discovery* in *The New York Review of Books*. The review began with a reminiscence about our days at the College and noted how some things have changed: "Homer and Herodotus, Sophocles and Plato, Aristotle and Dante, Shakespeare and Milton. All names engraved in the edifice of Columbia's Butler Library. They may be 'dead white men,' but to undergraduates in the 1960s, they seemed very much alive in the classes where we engaged their texts and debated their ideas. The skills in thinking that we sought could be applied to professions like law and medicine and finance, but we felt the pure scholarship of our professors was the pinnacle of intellectual life. Some 45 years later, students still begin their education at my alma mater with *The Iliad*. But the competition to read it on Morningside Heights has become much more fierce. Freshmen are drawn from a pool of applicants with stratospheric SATs and near-perfect GPAs, winners of Intel competitions and math Olympiads."

Thank heavens for the old days.

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Post-reunion apathy has reared its ugly head. Send, send, send. Send! Write to my email address above or contribute online using *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

James Minter enjoyed catching up with old friends at reunion but he missed some, and hopes to see even more at our 50th. (He hopes the entertainment then will be the "apparently now bionic" **Joe Seldner.**) A highlight of Alumni Reunion Weekend for James was the walking tour of the High Line led by his Carman 8 floormate **Steven Cantor.**

Pat Sharkey was once again named a "Super Lawyer" in Texas; he remains with the firm of Jackson Walker.

And there you have it. Until we tweet again.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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"New and improved!" the TV ads scream nightly, but rarely can you discern a difference. The same cannot be said about the new and improved (compared to our days) Columbia campus and Morningside Heights neighborhood! Yes, the red brick dorms are still there with their classic green copper roofs. And the lower campus is still punctuated by the imposing Low Library, offset by the equally imposing Butler Library. But the feel of being on campus — and wandering around the neighborhood — is certainly different.

Depending on when you were last there, you may notice that a new student center has replaced Ferris Booth Hall and that there are additional dorms in the East Campus (between the Law School and what we knew as the SIA Building) and at 113th and Broadway. More recently, a 188,000-sq.-ft. science building arose on 120th and Broadway (above the Dodge Physical Fitness Center). The South Field dust bowl has been replaced by grassy fields that are surrounded by English gardens. The lone tennis court by the John Jay cafeteria is now a beautiful plaza.

Our favorite restaurants on Broadway are still (mostly) there, albeit in a "toned-up" version. The Campus Inn diner is now called Deluxe and advertises, "Try our new coffee: Hazelnut Roast." The old M.I.L.L. Luncheonette (the name rumored to have come from the initials of owners Mo, Izzy and Larry) is now Mill Korean. Tom's Restaurant, whose facade was featured on *Seinfeld*, has added organic salads to its menu of greasy diner food that we all had so often (also outdoor dining). In fact, there are so many restaurants on Broadway between 106th Street and 116th Street that now have outside dining that one wag actually called the area "Paris on the Hudson." I think that may be exaggerating things a bit although, to be fair, I recently counted 10 restaurants with outdoor tables in just the two blocks below 114th Street. I'm sure there was no outdoor dining while we were on campus!

Bordering the southern side of the main campus, the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine (the world's largest cathedral), now has wondrous new carvings around its portals and a soaring south tower of hand-carved blocks. To the north, The Riverside Church and Grant's Tomb are magnificent though largely unchanged. But further north, between 125th Street and 133rd Street, the new Manhattanville campus expansion is rising from Broadway to 12th Avenue with new buildings for the Business School, the Engineering School, the School of the Arts and SIPA. Up by Baker Field (now the Baker Athletics Complex) is the new Campbell Sports Center.

You can see all this and more when you return to campus for our 40th Alumni Reunion Weekend, Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1! Tours of campus will be available and we are hoping to hold events in some of the new spaces. You won't want to miss your chance to be part of this dynamic moment in Columbia's history!

Speaking of the big weekend, Dr. **Robert Kraft** writes, "I am looking forward to the reunion. Where have 40 years gone?" He is in private practice doing plastic surgery in Forest Hills and is president of The Medical Society of the County of Queens. His older son, Michael '05, was in investment banking with the Bank of America until "the lure of the high-tech world and San Francisco [proved] too strong." Mike is now doing strategic management at Yahoo! Bob's younger son, David, "recently returned to the United States after a year of intense study in Singapore," where he was learning about industrial design for the entertainment industry (computerized 3D design of characters and backgrounds for video games). David will continue his education at Red Engine School of Arts and Design, an industry school in Los Angeles.

While on a West Coast theme, we received word from **Patrick Dowd,** retired president and CEO of Coventry Health Care, a major

national health care provider. He writes, "After many moves, my wife got to choose where to settle down in retirement. She chose Eugene, Ore. Runner-up was Colorado, where I lived for 20 years." (In light of the recent flooding in Colorado, this is yet another lesson on why we should listen to our wives!) Patrick has two children and five grandchildren. He posts frequently on Facebook of his world travels.

Dan Angius wrote in from Walnut Creek, Calif., saying he is "in the process of 'winding down' as managing partner of my law firm, Angius & Terry." In a year or two he hopes to turn the reins over to his partners and "spend more time with my family, traveling and working on my golf game." Dan and his wife, Jacque (whom he says "many of my Columbia classmates will remember"), have three kids: Dan, Lauren '08 and Jeff. And he became a grandpa a few months ago!

From further south in California comes word from **Louis Klonsky.** He lives in Pasadena and has retired from a long career as a staff geologist with Chevron. His "retirement," however, has led to a new career as educator: "I teach (undergraduate and graduate) at several Cal State universities in the L.A. area. I teach geophysics and petroleum geology. In addition, I teach 'Intro to Geology' at the New York Film Academy." (He explains that while the academy is headquartered in Greenwich Village, its main campus, mysteriously, is in Burbank, Calif.) He has "two grandkids from my social worker daughter" and his other daughter is completing her M.B.A. at USC while working at a hedge fund in L.A. Lou concludes, "So, in short, life is great in sunny California."

Not a lot of mail from the center of the country but sometimes Class Notes result from serendipity. At a new parents gathering at Columbia Prep, I met David Poppe '86, who realized I was a fellow Lion when I said I had read *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* in my freshman year. While I was looking up his email address in the alumni directory (always close at hand), I stumbled on a listing for **Richard Popper** Ph.D. '83 GSAS. The 2006 directory I have at work said he was a "Group Leader, Ocean Spray Cranberries" in Plano, Texas. I had visions of Richard being in hip waders in a cranberry bog. Further research revealed that last July he became the CEO of Pervyam & Kroll Research Corp., a marketing research firm. It ends up that, according to a press release, "Richard is a recognized expert in sensory, consumer and marketing research."

Who would think someone in the construction industry would also be a playwright? Answer: You'd think it if the person were a Columbia College graduate! **Michael Fixel** is president of Jerry Fixel, a home building company in Jacksonville, Fla. His second play, *Freefall Fostbite*, premiered in August at the prestigious New York International Fringe Festival. His "dynamic, large-ensemble, full-length verse play" had a score written together with Broadway veteran musical director Marc Irwin ("whom entertainment lawyer **Stewart Levy** would have known as Irwin Cantor when we were in high school"). The play was directed and choreographed by his daughter, Juliet. (Side note: Stewart is a partner of Eisenberg Tanchum & Levy in midtown Manhattan.)

Joe Barone, who lives in Old Saybrook, Conn., seems to be transitioning gradually to retirement. He writes, "My most recent 'full-time employment' situation was with a small biotech company headquartered in Wilmington, Del. But we 'persistently' live in southeastern Connecticut and the weekly, two-way commute got too much to bear. Currently, I simply consult from home for this firm."

You might have missed the listing in the Fall 2013 issue of *CCT* of the 62 "Alumni Sons and Daughters" who began as part of the College and Engineering Class of 2017 this semester. On the list was George Van Amson '17, son of **George Van Amson,** who is managing director at Morgan Stanley in NYC. The younger George finished high school at the Trevor Day School in Manhattan.

"I won!" yelled the Facebook message from **Arthur Schwartz.** Arthur (NYC) was re-elected Democratic district leader for Greenwich Village (a position he held 1995–2005). His campaign literature said, "I am running as the pro-kid, pro-park and playground, pro-labor, pro-parent, pro-participatory democracy candidate." Elsewhere he said, "I lead a very busy life — a busy law practice; four kids (two still under 10); husband; Hudson River Park activist; Community Board member; president of a new nonprofit, Advocates for Justice; and Democratic State Committee member for the Lower West Side of Manhattan."

And you thought *you* were busy!

It's amazing what you can discover by trolling through the Web. Here are three items of interest I recently found:

First, in the credits of the popular HBO series *The Newsroom* was a screen that said **Leon Wieseltier** (longtime literary editor of *The New Republic*) is a consultant to the show. Clicking away, I found out that *Mother Jones* describes Leon as "long being friendly with HBO" — which might explain how he had a walk-on part on *The Sopranos*. Revving my mouse into hyperdrive, I stumbled upon the commencement address Leon gave at Brandeis last May; in it, he railed against "our society inebriated by technology" that "represents the greatest assault on human attention ever devised: they are engines of mental and spiritual dispersal, which make us wider only by making us less deep." (Google "Leon Wieseltier Brandeis" for a fascinating read of this "Defense of the Humanities" speech.)

Second, want to know what is *really* happening in the Middle East? Try a Google search of "Steven Simon IISS." You'll be able to read commentary from **Steve Simon,** executive director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies. Until a year ago, Steve was the senior director for the Middle East and North Africa at the National Security Council at the White House. Hard to find someone with greater insights into this complex region.

Third and final, I got a Facebook post from our own Alumni Office (facebook.com/alumnicc) that said: "Columbia University in the City of New York is ranked No. 18 on The Daily Meal's '60 Best Colleges for Food in America' list. What is your best — or worst — food story from your undergraduate days?" Princeton is No. 19, Stanford is No. 20 and Harvard is No. 21. So much for the fancy eating clubs at Princeton and the house system at Harvard!

There you have it. A taste of what you will see at the "new and improved" Columbia when you return for Alumni Reunion Weekend: classmates choosing different ways of spending their 60s — enjoying their old or new careers, winding down, or outright retiring — and of course, a lot of news about our kids and grandkids. As we are in the holiday season, I want to remind you of the classic Vietnam-era chant, "I'd be Ho-Ho-Home for Christmas, if it wasn't for Ho Chi Minh!" I look forward to seeing you all in May!

What's Your Story?

Letting classmates know what's going on in your life is easier than ever. Send in your Class Notes!

ONLINE by clicking college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

EMAIL to the address at the top of your column.

MAIL to the address at the top of your column.

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Jim Dolan and his wife, Jasmin, are busy taking in the sights, sounds and slurps of their new environs, Philadelphia. They recently were aboard the *U.S.S. New Jersey* for the MGK Brew Blast.

Gerry Keating and Dr. **Joe Vassallo** (Columbia roommates and Chaminade H.S. classmates) and **Bob Schneider** (whose sons went to Chaminade) have been chatting after reconnecting through these Class Notes! Gerry is reading *Duel with the Devil: The True Story of How Alexander Hamilton & Aaron Burr Teamed Up to Take on America's First Sensational Murder Mystery* by Paul Collins, about how Hamilton and Burr were co-counsel representing the defendant in a sensational capital murder trial in New York City in 1800. It is the first fully recorded murder trial in U.S. history. Gerry finds it intriguing that the trial took place more than 200 years ago, as he has participated in almost 30 murder trials himself. Columbia is featured prominently in the book; Columbia students and faculty marched with Revolutionary War veterans on New Year's Day 1800 in the parade for George Washington's funeral.

Sports labor lawyer **Jeffrey Kessler** attended the Bloomberg Sports Business Summit in New York City in September, speaking at the panel "At the Table with the Player's Union." In an article about the event, he was quoted as saying NFL and NBA players unions could help top-level college athletes by offering them associate memberships. "You can't organize college players into unions," he said. "They're not considered workers; the NLRB won't recognize them as workers. So it has to be an association that's not a union."

On a personal note from Jeff, grandson Jordan is bouncing along to the "wonderful" twos — at least for his grandparents. No comment from Jordan's dad, Andrew!

On his 59th birthday, **Bob Schneider** and his wife, Regina Mullahy '75 Barnard, were blessed with a granddaughter, Elizabeth Marie (Elsie) Schneider, daughter of their son John '07 and his wife, Stephanie Pahler '06 Barnard. Congrats to John and Steph and to grandparents Bob and Regina.

Randy Nichols (that's me!) had a very busy few months. Since

Stars Fade, Michael Musto '76 Keeps Shining

By Ethan Rouen '04J, '11 Business

If the people **Michael Musto '76** writes about had the ability to dance around irrelevance the way he does, we might still be doing the hustle and walking like an Egyptian.

Musto is to gossip what Ernie Pyle was to war. From Warhol to Madonna to Gaga, he has served on the cultural front lines for nearly three decades, wading through the ever-changing mire of New York City nightlife to document the zeitgeist that has come to consume American readers.

"You have to be a chameleon to keep up with the landscape," he says. "My tone and writing have stayed the same but the scene has evolved, and I've covered it as accurately as I can."

As a columnist for *The Village Voice* from 1984 to 2013, Musto played a significant role in creating the modern journalistic genre that attempts to bring zest to the quotidian motions of the latest celebrity stumbling down the alphabet toward the C List. Unlike the new wave of paparazzi, though, he has always relied heavily on reporting to bring to life the thrill of being in the center of it all while also using his pulpit to advocate for gay rights and to "attack the power folks and celebrate the downtrodden," he says.

Still, before he outed celebrities who became activists, helped solve a murder that changed New York City nightlife forever and became a must-read for anyone who was (interested in) anyone, Musto was a first-year student lurking around *Spectator.*

"I would sit in the office every night hoping somebody would give me an assignment, and they never did," he says.

He finally got a gig writing theatre reviews for the *Barnard Bulletin,* and it wasn't long before the editors at *Spec* snatched him away from the sister college's paper.

During his time at the College, Musto was honing his voice, wrestling with whether to focus on acting or writing and trying to care as much about Homer as he did about Cher. He was inspired by Kenneth Koch's class on playwriting and poetry, even if his classmates didn't exactly get Musto's parody of several classic American plays.

Columbia didn't offer a major in journalism, so Musto, who was raised in Brooklyn, took to Manhattan, working as a freelance writer on various subjects for weekly newspapers by his senior year.

After graduation, he took a "9-to-5 job with a trashy fan mag to pay the rent," but he spent his nights writing about New York City's club scene just as it was becoming the center of the celebrity universe. A bit awkward and shy, Musto was amazed that as people became more intoxicated, they became more willing to talk to him.

"Once I got a taste of the nightlife, there was no turning back," he says. "Disco provided an escape and haven and check-your-mind-at-the-door hedonistic experience."

By the time disco died, Musto was a gifted chronicler of the shifting scene, and the *Voice* soon hired him to be one of the stars of the New Journalism it was pushing. He didn't disappoint.

Musto threw himself into the center of the party, giving depth to the lives of party people, showing that they are still just human beings chasing that intangible dream, and providing those on the sideline a reason to care about them.

Openly gay his entire career, Musto outed celebrities such as Rosie O'Donnell and Ellen DeGeneres long before their public identities became associated with their sexuality. He argued it was part of his battle against homophobia and an early attempt to normalize homosexuality.

The AIDS crisis made him even more devoted to fighting for gay rights and gay pride.

"It drove me even further out of the closet, screaming at anyone who was not joining the fight," he says. "Anyone who wasn't joining the fight and who was hiding in the closet was as much the enemy as Reagan was."

In 1996, he broke the scandal that would change New York nightlife: the murder of a gay Puerto Rican drug dealer by Club Kid king Michael Alig. Mayor Rudolph Giuliani later used the murder as evidence that the city needed to change.

He also fulfilled his desire to perform, making regular appearances on TV shows on stations ranging from E! to PBS.

But whether championing rights, comforting the afflicted or trashing a pop star's outfit, Musto remains an institution because of his ability to write with humor and passion.

"My colleagues at *The Village Voice* always knew when I was editing Michael's column by the sharp bursts of laughter that would emerge from my cubicle," says Charles McNulty, the *Voice*'s former theatre editor. "It astonished me that he was able to keep his column so comically fresh, week after week, year after year — it has to be some kind of journalistic record."

That record came to an end in May, when the *Voice,* in what many press-watchers said may be the storied weekly's swan song, laid off Musto.

Unlike some of the stars he covers, Musto was on to the next thing before he even packed up his desk. He now writes regularly for Out.com and Gawker and continues to freelance and make frequent appearances on TV.

Musto seems eternally young, pedaling through late-night New York City on his bicycle, chronicling the next famous teenager and the 25-year-old has-been who will always give him something to write about.

"I don't get tired of it," he says. "If I ever take up complaining that I get to go to fabulous nightclubs, that would be insane."



Michael Musto '76 covered celebrities and nightlife for *The Village Voice* for almost 30 years.
PHOTO: JASON RUSSO (HEYMRJASON PHOTOGRAPHY)

Ethan Rouen '04J, '11 Business *is a Ph.D. student at the Business School and a columnist for Fortune.com. He is a former* CCT *associate editor.*

returning to the Baltimore area several years ago, I've rediscovered a love for sailing, especially on Tall Ships. In August, my sister and I celebrated mutual birthdays with an evening cruise on the *Lady Maryland* followed by a five-course dinner with great wine pairings at the Living Classrooms Foundation in Bawlmer's Fells Point.

During Labor Day weekend I went to Ohio, where I rode every (adult) roller coaster at Cedar Point, spent a day in Put-in-Bay touring the *Niagara* (the Tall Ship of Pennsylvania) and did several day sails (on the *Windy*, the Tall Ship of Chicago, and the *Matthew & Hailey*). The next day, I participated in the very real 200th anniversary reenactment of the Battle of Lake Erie, with 17 tall ships taking part. Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial is unusual in that it is a place celebrating the durable peace between the United States and Canada, but largely due to the outcome of the battle. I encourage you to visit; it's well worth the while!

I ended the trip with a visit to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, where a special exhibition was celebrating 50 years of The Rolling Stones. Of course, there's lots going on in the Baltimore area, too, and I've been to events marking the 200th anniversaries of both the Battle of St. Michaels and the Battle of North Point. Finally, in mid-September, I was in Madison, Wis., for an Alzheimer's walk with my cousins, honoring the 'strong Nichols women' who succumbed to this pernicious ailment. (We lost two of them just last year, both in their late 80s, and most others lived into their 90s — so I come from long-living but compromised genes. We miss them all and are proud to call them our forewomen!)

Of counsel with Baker Donelson in the firm's Atlanta office, **Joshua Tropper** concentrates his practice in the areas of intellectual property and technology law as well as appellate litigation. Josh has extensive experience in counseling, licensing and litigation to protect clients' copyrights, trademarks, patents and trade secrets. Recently, he defended hardware and software firms from claims asserted by patent "trolls." (I hope he doesn't mind that I found him through one of my "bots"!) Josh and his wife, Jeanne Watson '83 Arch., '83 PH, have finally emptied their nest and are looking forward to some peace and quiet before deciding what to do next.

As usual, I can't write a set of Notes without including a request or two. The kickoff to planning for our 40th Alumni Reunion Weekend (save the date: Thursday, May 28–Sunday, May 31, 2015) took place during Columbia Alumni Leaders Weekend in October, and a number of classmates have already agreed to be on the Reunion Committee. We'll keep reaching out to others but if you're willing, please contact me!

Also, the Fiscal Year 2014 Columbia College Fund is open and accepting donations. I've already made my first contribution to this year's fund (in time to deduct it this year, too!). Have you? Some of you will be getting emails or calls soon — please respond and be generous! You can give by credit card at college.columbia.edu/giveonline or by calling 212-851-7488; alternately, mail a check, payable to Columbia College Fund, to Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025.

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Ira Cooper is celebrating his 30th year with Travelers Insurance. "I guess I feel secure under that umbrella," he says.

Kevin Berry has plenty of news: "My new granddaughter, Leighton Hope Kaho, is getting lots of attention. My daughter, Keeley, is getting married soon and her sisters, Emily (Thomas Jefferson University) and Leah (Temple), are in graduate programs; for me and my wife, Meredith, that will make it six out of six children with graduate degrees. My commercial trial practice remains active. I recently successfully concluded a trial in Chicago and am looking forward to the next one on the West Coast. A hearty shoutout to my classmates and teammates."

Louis Anon will make you jealous with this account of his first year of retirement: "My partner and I now spend summers in Nova Scotia and winters in Florida. We are leaving for two months in Italy this fall. We plan to come back to Florida and spend the winter sailing; it's really very beautiful on the southwest coast. Lots of great anchorages."

All has been too quiet lately. Your classmates want to hear from you! Write with news about your life, whether career, family, travel or accomplishments, and I'll share it in a future issue. You can use either of the addresses at the top of the column or send a note via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

77

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This season I received notes from just two classmates, which I hasten to share.

Congratulations to **Franco Mormando** on his promotion to full professor of Italian at Boston College, where he chairs the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures. His latest book is *Bernini: His Life and His Rome*, the first biography in English of the great Baroque artist. Franco duly notes that he first encountered Bernini in an Art Hum course "all the way back in 1973."

Congratulations also to **Jon Lukomnik**, who in June received the 2013 International Corporate Governance Network (ICGN) Award for Excellence in Corporate Governance. Jon is executive director of the Investor Responsibility Research Center Institute and is recognized as a leading thinker on corporate governance and responsibility. I was interested to read excerpts from his acceptance speech, where he encouraged — nay, admonished — 500 or so listeners to reflect, in long-term and broad-scope ways, on the social purpose and impact of investment strategies. I doubt that Jon started considering these things in Art Hum but I can attest that he was already a big-picture guy when he worked at *Spectator* — and that, too, was almost 40 years ago.

Franco Mormando '77 was promoted to full professor of Italian at Boston College, where he chairs the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures.

By now you're used to the infectiously upbeat tone of this column, I expect, but we need to take a break for a moment. We are entering that period where CC '77 obituaries will no longer be so unusual. A few columns back, I was struggling with the whole topic of memorials. On the one hand, I couldn't provide one for everybody if I wanted to; on the other, I don't think we should ignore the topic, either. So, tell you what: I'm open to including memorials to classmates in the column if you want to offer one. After all, we already print memories of events, experiences, places and people such as faculty and staff.

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Does it seem the seasons fly by quicker all the time? I remember the four years at Columbia passing as if they were a lifetime, months to be savored and semesters that each contained the texture and experiences of a new and strange adventure. I miss that sense of discovery and the slowness of experience that those days brought. A raw and innocent time. But here we are 35 years later. Our edges are sanded and smoother now.

Marc Bogatin's son, Jacob, is taking a year off from Syracuse and now leads an outdoor adventure program in Mexico. Younger son Joshua is a freshman at Oberlin; he hopes to be a filmmaker. While dropping off Josh, Marc bumped into **Gary Blackman** and his daughter, also starting at the Ohio school.

Ted Faraone writes, "At Alumni Reunion Weekend I was asked to introduce **Ric Burns.** He was fantastic. A total professional. I also taught the Alumni Office that in a room as big as what we had for the dinner, the audience questions need to be miked. At least I learned something from a lifetime in TV. In addition to seeing the guys, it was great to meet **Chris Dell**'s wife and to reconnect with Lesa Rader '78 Barnard, Amanda Kissin Low '78 Barnard and Jami Bernard '78 Barnard as well as to enjoy **Chuck Callan**'s hospitality at the pre-reunion lunch he hosted at his beautiful house on the Hudson."

Rob Blank says, "It was great to see everyone at reunion. I would have enjoyed one more day. Since then I've become fully engaged in my new position at the Medical College of Wisconsin and am working to get my lab up to full speed. My wife, Sue Coppersmith, and daughter, Deborah, are both thriving."

Seth Josephson writes, "I'm the proud father of five fabulous girls, ages 4–15! Certainly my greatest accomplishment. I've moved around the East Coast quite a bit since my Columbia days but have settled in quiet northern New Jersey. I stumbled into medical sales nearly 25 years ago and had just one brief hiatus from it. I am an account executive with Thermo Fisher Scientific."

Russ Frazer reports, "I am now a senior member of the Institute of

Electrical and Electronics Engineers. My recent elevation in membership was due to my managerial work for the New Jersey Coast Section."

David Beazer writes, "I'm digital content associate editor at *Consumer Reports*, where I've worked since 2006. In August 2012, my wife and I moved to Dutchess County, N.Y."

Tom Mariam writes, "My mother, Lisa Mariam, recently passed away at 97. It was quite comforting to hear from many of my Columbia classmates during our period of mourning. I thought I'd share two somewhat relevant notes concerning my mom:

"First, denied the opportunity to go to college in Germany as a Jew in the late '30s, my mother waited until I graduated from Columbia to earn her own B.A. She was well into her 60s. And second, though not much of a football fan, she will always have a connection to Columbia football with her name on a seat at [Robert K. Kraft Field at Lawrence A.] Wien Stadium, which I dedicated when the stadium was built in appreciation of what my parents did to make my Columbia experience possible."

Barry Rosenblatt reports, "After 30 years in the bio-pharmaceutical industry, I have been an independent consultant helping small, emerging companies develop their biologics. I can honestly say that I am having the most fun and energizing time since my early days in a start-up (Janssen Biotech, formerly Centocor Biotech). I have even had time to come back to New York and see shows and movies — I recently attended the New York Film Festival and saw the world premiere of *Captain Phillips* from the fifth row — and shop at Zabar's!"

James (Huck) Hill writes, "Performing some poetry of Edgar Allan Poe and enjoying his dark visions. I don't recall studying Poe in our Lit Hum classes. What's up with that, is he too Goth? … Is there any room for bohemians in the College anymore, or are they all superstars?"

Dave Danner says, "Greetings from Olympia, Wash., where my wife, Lauren, and I have made our home for 20 years. I chair the state's utilities commission and am a member of the governor's cabinet. Rest assured I am putting to good use my comparative literature degree and everything I learned from Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig. I get to New York fairly often. Last year, we took our daughter, Sophie (13), to see the campus and enjoyed lunch at Tom's Restaurant with my freshman roommate, Scott Morgan '77. The menu hasn't changed all that much since college, even if Scott and I have aged slightly."

Steve Bargonetti writes, "In addition to being able to hear my guitar and banjo playing on *Sesame Street*, I've been recording music for Steven Van Zandt's TV series, *Lilyhammer*. I'm also scheduled to play guitar for the musical *Holler if Ya Hear Me*, featuring the music of Tupac Shakur, which is coming to Broadway."

Billy Holden reports, "Effective this October I became a faculty member (professor, preventive medicine) at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai, after far too many years as a wage slave in the pharmaceutical industry."

John Crabtree says, "River-Market Bar and Kitchen, my new restaurant/greenmarket/specialty wine shop, has opened for business in Tarrytown, N.Y., by the Hudson River. It features Hudson Valley farmers' products (meats, produce, cheeses, etc.), both in the market and in the restaurant, and biodynamic/organic wines in the wine store. It's a short walk from the Tarrytown train station on the Hudson Line from Grand Central Station."

Marvin I.C. Siegfried reports: "Still teaching high school in Brooklyn. Will be glad to see the back of Mayor Michael Bloomberg; what he has done to education in NYC is nothing short of terrible. Stepson and stepdaughter both got married earlier this year; both weddings were great. Couldn't make the 35th reunion despite plans to go. Hoping to make the 40th."

Paul Phillips writes, "This year marks my 25th year as director of orchestras and chamber music at Brown and my 20th year as music director of the Pioneer Valley Symphony, which celebrates its 75th anniversary this year."

Jeffrey Moerdler says, "I have been bumping into **Mike Schulder** a lot lately, as his in-laws live in my building. My son, Eric, is going for a master's in real estate development at the Architecture School; he and his twin brother, Jonathan, graduated from NYU last spring, Eric from NYU College of Arts and Sciences with a major in architecture and urban planning and Jonathan from the undergraduate NYU Stern School of Business. Jonathan's wife of one year, Kayla Freilich Moerdler '13 Barnard, is going for a master's in occupational therapy at NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center."

Tim Weiner writes, "Raising two fantastic daughters, happily married to a wonderful woman for 20 years, happily separated from *The New York Times* and, believe it or not, happily writing books for a living, a damn better living in every way than the newspaper racket. Though I do miss the occasional trip to my favorite hellholes like Afghanistan and Sudan, life has been very, very good to me."



Four alumni tailgated at the Jets-Patriots game on October 20 (left to right): Brian Krisberg '81, '84L; Dale Meyer '80E; Jess Drabkin '79; and Wade Black '99 GS, '05 Business.

Chris Dell is retired from the State Department after almost 33 years as of October 31: "I'll be moving to Mozambique with my wife, Tedi, who will be at the USAID [United States Agency for International Development] mission there, so the break from Uncle [Sam] isn't quite as clean as I'd like. However, I will be starting my second career, in the private sector, there, and am excited about the changes."

Daniel Mikulsky reports, "I completed requirements for my second master's, an M.A. in homeland security from American Military University. It was all virtual and yet in some ways built upon the education that I received at Columbia."

Thanks for the great response we have been getting for the column lately. Let's keep it up!

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014

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News from **Jeffrey Light** focuses on the splendor of the outdoors, as he recently "finished a beautiful multi-day hike of California's High Sierra Trail with some buddies. The view from the top of the trail is pretty inspiring. Hope all's well with my fellow Lions. Greetings from the Left Coast!"

Robert Bo Newsome writes, "My wife, Phyllis, passed in 2002. I am happy to share that I have remarried, and it will be four years come February. I met Prim, who is Thai, while attending a festival at a Thai *wat* [monastery temple] near home. She was a stockbroker in Bangkok before immigrating to the United States. Now she is an entrepreneur selling sweet and savory Thai desserts and drinks through local ethnic markets and at festivals.

"Last fall I retired from playing competitive rugby … for the third time. I had been playing for the old French International Team, aka the Alexandria Roosters Rugby Football Club, for the past three years. It was a blast! Many of the players are affiliated with the French Embassy and the coach, Tony Flay, is a New Zealander who played for the United States in a World Cup. I can see myself running down the pitch with a whistle in hand, not as a ref — my skin's not thick enough for that — but as a coach in the not-too-distant future. I hoped to catch a bit of the Old Blue [Rugby Football Club] game during Homecoming weekend."

Robert C. Klapper: "For the last three years my second career has been as a radio talk show host on ESPN. The show is called *Weekend Warrior*. It has allowed me, with the blessing of my bosses at ESPN, the incredible renaissance luxury of combining the worlds of art, medicine, surgery and sports. The experience culminated on a recent weekend with my taking two art history experts from The J. Paul Getty Museum and 50 sports fans to the museum to compare the great 20th-century artist Pablo Picasso with Laker great Kobe Bryant, and the tortured painter Vincent van Gogh with the tortured Yankee Alex Rodriguez.

"The morning of the museum visit, my guest on the radio show was *Sports Illustrated* senior writer David Epstein '02, author of an incredible book, *The Sports Gene: Inside the Science of Extraordinary Athletic Performance*. (He has since moved on to a position with ProPublica, which produces investigative journalism in the public interest.) As we spoke he compared elite

quarterback Peyton Manning and his masterful football skill set to that of a grand master chess player and to the musical abilities of Carlos Santana and Miles Davis. This magnificent analogy took my breath away, which isn't good when you are a voice on the radio. It was at this moment that my producer's voice entered my ear and said, 'Dr. Klapper, ask him where he went to school.' Mr. Epstein's response: 'I went to Columbia.' [Editor's note: See feature on Epstein in Bookshelf.]

"Now, my fellow '79-ers: How cool is it that whatever path we alumni follow after graduation, we each still see the world in a Core Curriculum kind of way? It made me proud."

Roar, lion, roar!

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Congratulations to **Carl Haber,** who in September was named a 2013 MacArthur Fellow [see Around the Quads]. The "Genius Grant," as it's often called, comes with a stipend of $625,000 paid across five years. Carl is an audio preservationist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in Berkeley, Calif., and was the first person to hear Alexander Graham Bell's restored voice, speaking from 1885.

My wife, Marianne, and I had dinner with **Jay Kutlow** and his wife, Diana Wood Kutlow '80 Barnard, on their recent East Coast trip. Jay produces high-quality sports broadcasts for ESPN and MLB on the West Coast. We had a great discussion over a bottle of chardonnay on hitting a baseball.

The pros from Dover had an opportunity to tee it up with the Columbia men's and women's golf teams at The Tuxedo Club.

Columbia College Alumni on Facebook

Check out the Columbia College Alumni page!
facebook.com/alumnicc
Like the page to get alumni news, learn about alumni events and College happenings, view photos and more.

Eric Blattman, Joe Ciulla, Shawn FitzGerald and I spent an afternoon with Shawn's son, Christian '17, hitting wedges and making putts. Both teams are loaded with great players and will be a pleasure to follow this season.

Jim Gerkis and I attended the Columbia College Fund's Fund Development Council meeting in early October and were impressed with the fundraising plans for this year. We really need your support for this year's campaign. You can give by credit card at college.columbia.edu/giveonline or by calling 212-851-7488, or mail a check, payable to Columbia College Fund, to Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025.

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Winter is nearly upon us, and no news to report! But I know that doesn't mean that no news is happening. Take a few minutes to share with us — what's the latest with you, your family, your career, your travels? You can write me at either address at the top of the column or use *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. In the meantime, I wish you a happy, healthy holiday season.

82

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Greetings, gentlemen. I hope all is well and that the Federal Reserve's "tapering" activities won't cause any of you to delay your retirement plans. An odd personal note in this regard: I recently met economist Janet Yellen (at this writing, nominated as Fed chair) on a flight from Denver to San Francisco and commented, in response to her rather substantial piece of carry-on luggage, "now I know where you're hiding all those bonds you've been buying." She was quite a good sport about the comment but refused to give me any details. Ah, well …

I'm pleased to report that we had a nice, somewhat sports-themed response this quarter, featuring baseball, hockey and a tale of extraordinary determination and endurance!

First, baseball. Our accomplished and "camera-ready" classmate, **Frederick Katayama** '83J, let us know that he recently received the Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA) National Journalism Award for a story he did at Reuters TV on the pitch that baffles batters (and catchers) — the knuckleball. He writes, "I pursued this topic with my producer, Zach Goelman '08J, after then-Mets knuckleball pitcher R.A. Dickey hurled two one-hitters in a row." The story is titled "The Knuckleball: The Science Behind Why It's So Damn Hard to Hit." It's an interesting piece of journalism and available for viewing on YouTube — just enter Frederick's full name and "knuckleball" as your search terms. At the same event, Marcus Brauchli '83 won the Leadership in Diversity Award from AAJA.

Congratulations and nicely done!

Now we move on to hockey. The esteemed **John J. Cifu** has updated us on his career, family, marriage of 28 years, scholarly children and recent, rather surprising family acquisition. Clearly, John, you have some valuable "life" wisdom. But let's hear it in his own words:

"I've been in Palm Harbor, Fla. — 20 miles west of Tampa — for 15 years and I'm the director of accounting at Pinch A Penny (Florida-based pool store chain with more than 200 locations). My daughter, Amanda, recently graduated from FSU and my son, James, is a senior at USF. Both are Florida state schools. I have been married 28 years to Annmarie Cannavina '80 Baruch. The big news is that my baby brother, Douglas '87, has become an owner of the NHL's Florida Panthers, in Sunrise, Fla. I know he would never have the time to send anything in, so I wanted everyone to know."

How cool is that?!

Finally, a tale of extraordinary determination from the erudite **Steve Sullivan.** He sets it up admirably with an epigram:

"'Gradual school is where you go to school and you gradually find out you don't want to go to school anymore.' — *The World According to Garp,* (1982), G.R. Hill (director), John Irving (author), Steve Tesich (screenplay)

"It took nearly a quarter-century of halting progress and two doctoral sponsors — Jim Shenton ['49] passed away and Ken Jackson wouldn't let me quit — and my family is still (surprisingly) speaking to me. But *A Social History of the Brooklyn Irish, 1850–1900* is done and my fourth Columbia degree is on the wall: B.A. '82, M.A. '84, M.Phil. '88, Ph.D. '13. … Eric Foner ['63, '69 GSAS] and Jackson both went to bat for me on more than one occasion, each believing in me and my research. It's no record but 25 years puts me in some sort of pantheon of slackers, right?"

Steve, I must admit that I'm impressed and I greatly enjoyed the comment from your mother that you included in your dissertation dedication: "The impossible just takes a little longer."

Keep those notes coming!

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Several of our classmates were listed in my Harvard Law anniversary report.

Howard Adler '82 is a partner at Clifford Chance. His practice focuses on the treatment of executive compensation and employee benefits matters in M&A transactions.

Miguel Estrada is a partner in the Washington, D.C., office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. He co-chairs the firm's Appellate and Constitutional Law Practice Group. From 1992 to 1997, Miguel served as assistant to the Solicitor General of the United States. He is a member of the Board of Visitors of Harvard Law. In 2011, Chambers and Partners named Miguel as one of a handful of attorneys who ranked in the top tier among the nation's leading appellate lawyers. In 2001 he was nominated by President George W. Bush to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

David Hershey-Webb writes, "In September I argued before the New York Court of Appeals. The case involved a son's right to succeed to his mother's Mitchell-Lama apartment."

In May, I attended a Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors meeting where details were given about the Class of 2017, for which the College and Engineering received a combined 33,531 applications. Columbia was ranked, once again, fourth among universities by *U.S. News & World Report.*

In addition, 62 members of the College Class of 2017 and six members of the Engineering Class of 2017 are sons or daughters of College alumni. The list includes Bradley Davison (Peddie School in Skillman, N.J.), son of the late **Henry Davison Jr.;** Mira Frenkel (Catalina Foothills H.S. in Tucson), daughter of **David Frenkel;** Olivia Harrison (Riverdale Country School in the Bronx, N.Y.), daughter of **David Harrison;** and Gregory Momjian (Radnor H.S. in Radnor, Pa.), son of **Mark Momjian.**

It was great to see Dr. **David Kriegel** at Alumni Reunion Weekend. David is a nationally recognized Mohs skin cancer, cosmetic and laser surgeon. He is director and founder of the Manhattan Center for Dermatology in NYC. He also

is the director of the Division of Dermatologic and Mohs Surgery at The Mount Sinai Hospital in NYC, a position he's held since 1997, and the director of the Procedural Dermatology Fellowship program at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Department of Dermatology, a position he's held since 2003.

David has been a featured expert in the media, appearing on news programs and in magazines such as *Cosmopolitan, Reader's Digest, Good Housekeeping* and *Redbook*. He has been recognized as a skin cancer expert in *The New York Times* as well as by Lou Dobbs on CNN.

In connection with the American Masters documentary on Mel Brooks, **Eddy Friedfeld,** who also consulted on the Emmy-winning program, conducted a lengthy interview with Brooks that was published in *Cinema Retro Magazine*. Eddy notes, "In 1982 I bought 10 copies of the *High Anxiety* soundtrack, the flip side of which included the songs from all of the other Brooks films, to give as holiday gifts to friends. When I presented it to one of my college friends, he clutched the LP to his chest and ran off eager to play it. Flash forward to 1995, when I get a box in the mail — it was the *2000 Year Old Man* boxed set that had just been released on CD with a note from that friend thanking me for the LP 12 years earlier."

That friend was Dennis Klainberg '84. Eddy, Dennis and I remain close friends.

Jon Ross sent some incredible photos from his Micro Aid project in Peru. In this case, a family had lost its adobe home in the 2010 floods and had been living in a shack, and Micro Aid built a beautiful new home for them. It has five rooms, is 1,400 sq. ft. with a second-floor foundation, and is designed to withstand floods and earthquakes. Twelve people will live there. Jon notes, "Our work helped the community by employing people and injecting much-needed cash into the local economy." (Read a profile on Ross in the Spring 2013 *CCT*.)

Steve Holtje keeps busy with a mix of editing and music work: He is the content editor of Culture Catch.com, for which he also writes music articles; a freelance reviewer for eMusic.com and the magazine *The Big Takeover*; a developmental editor working on neuroscience and psychology books for Oxford University Press; a jack of all trades (A&R, PR, marketing) for venerable record label ESP-Disk, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year; runs his own micro-label, MechaBenzaiten Records, which offers electronic music of the dark and droney sort; and is a prolific composer of classical art songs with a modern twist.

While attending a College/Barnard reunion event, Sharon Dizenhuz '83 Barnard saw my original Sam Steinberg painting and afterward send me a photograph of the Columbia icon. She writes, "I was thrilled to connect with you so we can work together to create future fun Barnard/Columbia joint events. As for the Sam pic, you can print it and tape it to the back of your framed original to establish 'provenance' for your progeny."

David Rubel writes, "My daughter, Abigail, will graduate from high school in three years." David was invited to participate in the CAA Alumni Author Book Fair that was part of Columbia Alumni Leaders Weekend, held October 11–12.

Wayne Allyn Root plans to publish a new book, *The Murder of the Middle Class*. It is scheduled for release in summer 2014.

Teddy Weinberger's daughter, Rebecca, represented Israeli basketball in the Maccabiah Games. The first game was against the United States. Rebecca had a fantastic game. Israel tied the United States at the buzzer but lost in overtime.

A memorial service was held for Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig on October 19 at the new Boat House before the Homecoming game. About 30 Columbia graduates and friends participated, including George Wilson '83, Ted Allegaert '87, Joseph Cabrera '82, Michael Schmidtberger '82, Jim Weinstein '84, David Filosa '82, Dennis Klainberg '84, Tom Vinciguerra '85, Chuck Callan '78, Mark Gibson '86, Adam Belanoff '84, Joel Halio '74, Alex Demac '78, Dean Dakolias '89E, Rob Toggweiler '75, Bill Basri '84, Phil Donahue '84, David Godfried '84 and me.

Professor Selig's ashes were dispersed in the Harlem River while Dennis played *Taps*. For a more detailed description, please see "Letters to the Editor" and read the moving note from Joel.

Ted, the executor of KLS' will, shared with us some photos and personal artifacts including the following letter that Professor Selig wrote to *The New York Times* on April 29, 2005:

"I read with great delight the article by Dana Bowen, 'By Cheese Possessed,' Dining, April 27, 2005. But a favorite cheese of mine, an important part of my life, was not mentioned in the florilegium of the many cited. Fortunately I can get this cheese in a very caring and lovely neighborhood store. It is the Spanish cheese Rocinante. We are in an important literary anniversary year and want to honor and celebrate one of the greatest, universal and global works of art of all times. *Don Quixote* was published in 1605. And Rocinante was the Knight Errant's loyal dapple and steed."



Frederick Katayama '82 (center) and his wife, Kaoriko Kuge, with Marcus Brauchli '83 at the Asian American Journalists Association Awards Dinner, which took place in August at the New York Hilton Midtown. Both Katayama and Brauchli received awards at the event.

Ted also notes, "KLS was one of a kind. God bless him for having enriched our lives the way he did. He having done right by me when I needed a favor, I was glad to help him out all those years later. Little did I know that in the process I would join such a rich circle of friendships, and that in pursuing our common purpose of making Professor's last years tolerable, a warm sense of community and shared commitment would take root. I'd like to think we all succeeded against great odds in materially brightening his days until the very end."

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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Remember Convocation? It took place just after our parents dropped us off on Broadway and marked the start of Orientation Week. If memory serves, it was held in Low Library, and the main speaker was Dean Roger Lehecka '67, '74 GSAS. I remember his speech included shout-outs to the high school valedictorians, class presidents and other overachievers, the goodly number of NYC high school graduates, the athletes, the gifted musicians and so forth. His view was that we, the men (at that time, of course), were blessed "because wasn't the sky Columbia blue?"

Well, these days Convocation is a family affair, very much like Class Day, and it includes the Alumni Procession. The alumni are grouped by decades, and yours truly is proud to have represented our class. The gaggle of '80s grads also included Dr. **Fred Fisher** (this time in tribute to his daughter Rebecca '17; daughter Talia '13 graduated in the spring), and Mark Momjian '83 (whom I met on day one, 9 a.m., in a Lit Hum class taught by Professor Peter Awn, now dean of GS).

In response to my e-blast sharing Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig's 1975 *Columbian* essay, **Michael Kittel** wrote, "Selig was the best, although I mainly knew him from speaking in the elevator." To which I responded, "And that's exactly what made him great. He was always willing to reach out to students, even (and perhaps especially!) those who did not take his classes!"

Peregrine Beckman writes, "Here's the latest from Los Angeles: Daughter Eleanor '16 did well in her freshman year, lived in Carman and appeared in the musical *A Party Worth Crashing* in Lerner Hall, which I got to see on a felicitously timed trip to NYC. She's in Nussbaum this year, a dorm that

was an apartment building when we were students. She was here in L.A. this past summer, working at the production company Original Productions, where I usually work.

"I'm producing and editing a new show for History Channel, *The Legend of Shelby the Swamp Man*, a spinoff of its *Ax Men*. My wife, Elizabeth Leicester '87, is at the Asia Institute in UCLA. We recently partied with our former roommate, Shipherd Reed '86, at his 50th in Tucson."

Eric Wakin writes, "My wife, Kathryn Kaminsky, and I have relocated with our three children to the Bay Area, where I'm an associate director of the Hoover Institution at Stanford, a research fellow and director of its library and archives. We look forward to connecting with Columbians in the area."

Thomas Dyja reports, "My book, *The Third Coast: When Chicago Built the American Dream*, was published in April and was featured twice in *The New York Times*: on the front cover of its *Sunday Book Review*, as well as in one of its daily editions. Here's a link to my website: thomasdyja.com."

Michael Sauerman celebrated his 50th in Japan; adopted a female cat, a beautiful calico, from Bideawee on East 38th Street; and purchased a home in Brooklyn Heights in July with his partner, Tim. Says Michael, "Life is good."

Daniel G. Berick has been named Cleveland Securities/Capital Markets Law Lawyer of the Year for 2014 by *Best Lawyers*, a long-standing and well-respected legal peer-review publication. Dan is the Americas chair of Squire Sanders' Global Corporate Practice, focusing on securities law, corporate finance and corporate transactional matters. He is consistently listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for corporate, leveraged buyouts and private equity, mergers and acquisitions, and securities law.

Randy Lerner, Daniel's family friend — their fathers, Jim Berick '55 and Alfred Lerner '55, were College friends and business associates — and a fellow Clevelandite (turned Hampton-ite), was reported in *The Wall Street Journal* to have developed The Inn at Windmill Lane in Amagansett, N.Y., a luxury inn, with additional super-luxe cottages being finished for this fall.

At Homecoming, the ashes of our dearly departed friend and professor, Karl-Ludwig Selig, were scattered in the river in front of the Boat House; all took place before a gathering of former students and friends (per his will). For a most poignant description, please see "Letters to the Editor" and read the note from Joel Halio '74.

Our 30th reunion is next spring, so please consider attending. Details to follow via email.

Stay in touch!

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October marked two years since **Jim Lima** started his own strategic planning and real estate development advisory firm, James Lima Planning + Development. Work includes helping craft a business plan and selecting a location for a proposed National LGBT Museum in Washington, D.C.; development feasibility work for a new The Water Institute of the Gulf on the Mississippi in Baton Rouge; and creating a destination waterfront park along St. Anthony Falls in Minneapolis. Jim recently testified at the New York City Council, where he shared his research on the real estate development potential around what should be a new world-class Penn Station transit hub, and at The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission in support of protecting the nation's first workforce housing (on the Upper East Side) from demolition. He also writes that he is "recently 'gay separated' after 28 years with my college roommate, but obviously thrilled about marriage equality."

Tim Tomasi reported going through old photos from a Glee Club trip to Quebec (including some of yours truly with what Tim reports is a "'70s/'80s suave look." Tim is a superior court judge in Vermont. He writes, "It is still a pretty steep learning curve. My practice had been focused on civil litigation but now I am in charge of the family and criminal dockets as well. Plus, the civil docket is filled with collections, foreclosures and landlord tenant cases, which, again, I did not do. So, some days are pretty taxing. Plus there is a lot of stress with the abuse, juvenile and criminal cases. But each day I learn more and (I hope) get a bit better."

On September 7, several track and field teammates gathered at the Acquedotto Romano Polo Club, which is just south of Rome, Italy, for the wedding of Massimo (Max) Fielding Elser '85 GS and Tessa Laura Fahlbusch of Göttingen, Germany. These included Steven Carrara '84, John Schutty '80, **Terry Jones** and Lance Warrick '79.

Dale Smith has been named head of school at Isidore Newman School in New Orleans. Dale, born and raised in the Crescent City, began his teaching career as a middle school math teacher at the Collegiate School in NYC. He returned to New Orleans in 1990 and began his career at Newman as an upper school teacher of mathematics and computer science. He earned an M.S. in counseling from Loyola in 2007. As Dale made the transition at Newman from the classroom into educational leadership, his administrative responsibilities included department chairman, dean of students, upper school head and associate head of school. He also was head of school at Pine Crest School, a large PK–12 independent school in South Florida with 2,600 students and more than 250 teachers on two campuses.

A plug for the Alumni Representative Committee (ARC): I know many of you interview prospective Columbia students as part of the admissions process. It is a great way to assist and participate in the process of keeping the best students front and center for the College. ARCs in many regions cannot interview all of the interested candidates (there are more than 30,000 applicants annually). Whether for interviews, College fairs or internship opportunities, I know that all help is always appreciated. You can find out more at undergrad.admissions.columbia.edu/admissions/archandbook/.

And speaking of admissions, the Fall *CCT* listed the legacy members of the College and Engineering Classes of 2017 and I am pleased to say that our class leads the way with nine students! Congrats to **David Avigan, Pace Cooper** (with twin boys in the class), **Jinduk Han, Gary Jacobs, Joseph Lang, Frank Nelson, Mark Rothman** and **Mischa Zabotin** — and, of course, their children.

Just think — only 18 months until our 30th Alumni Reunion Weekend. Save the dates: Thursday, May 28–Sunday, May 31, 2015.

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It's been 27 years since graduation and we have **Josh Cabat**'s first update, which he wrote during the summer — "possibly inspired by the fact that my only child, Melissa, is to leave for Oberlin in a couple of weeks. I am the chair of English at the Roslyn (N.Y.) Public Schools and celebrated my silver anniversary in October. I taught in the NYC public schools for a dozen years, helping to found the High School for Leadership and Public Service on Trinity Place.

"I made the move to the 'burbs (to work, not to live) more than a dozen years ago, the first nine as teacher and the last four as chair. Yet when I think about it, my days on the Heights have never left me; when I got to Roslyn, I founded a popular humanities program that is essentially the Core adapted for some really bright and energetic high schoolers. For the last few years, I have been the teaching artist for the Young Film Critics program at the Brooklyn Academy of Music (thank you for the inspiration, Professor Andrew Sarris '51, '98 GSAS). I also do a lot of workshops and speak at conferences across the country on behalf of the Folger Shakespeare Library (thank you for the inspiration, Professor Jim Shapiro '77), work that began with the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute and really took off when I co-founded the New York City Student Shakespeare Festival in the mid-'90s. I've also had the great fortune to do a lot of work with Apple, and I co-created one of the first K–12 courses for iTunes U (check it out — it's called 'History of World Literature' and will look familiar to any College grad).

"When I set off for Columbia 31 years ago (!), the only thing I knew for certain was that I would never become a teacher. Fortunately, I ignored myself completely, and the 25 years in the classroom have felt like 10 minutes. With the exception of a brief stint in Brooklyn, I have lived in the East Village since I returned from grad school at Chicago. Who would have thought that the neighborhood, which was wild, edgy and wonderfully heterogeneous in the late 1980s, would evolve into a glorified strip mall? (I nearly chained myself to the door in protest when 2nd Ave Deli was replaced by a Chase branch.)

"As sad as that has been to watch, the neighborhood has become progressively safer, enough so that my wife, Susan Scheer, and I decided not to move when my daughter was born. Raising her in the East Village has been one of the great experiences of my life, and I love the fact that she expects the world to look as diverse as her homeland. And yet, off she goes to Ohio, to a town with three streets on a good day. Watching her prepare to leave reminds me of my own arrival at the College, and of how what I learned there still has an impact on my world every day and is being passed on to new generations of students. So a big thank you to Columbia and hello to the Carman 13'ers, my fellow river rats and especially to my concert band and Marching Band buds."

Time definitely feels like it's passing faster now. Please take five minutes and update the class on whatever you like.

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As we in the northern climes prepare for hibernation, let's take a few minutes to remember summer 2013 as those lazy, hazy, crazy … actually, the crazy days begin to disappear from view!

First we take a moment to recall the early summer, where in Washington, D.C., the government was ablaze with mass negotiations over President Barack Obama '83's recess appointees. **Sharon Block** wrote in with the best news of all about this latest government kerfuffle. Although as a result of the negotiations her term as a member of the National Labor Relations Board came to an end, she is now senior counselor to Secretary of Labor Tom Perez. "I'm thrilled to have found a new place in the administration to continue to work on issues related to American workers," she says.

In a story that some (like me) might describe as the trip of a lifetime, **Rebecca Laber-Smith** reported that she and her husband, Chuck, decided to leave their jobs and take their boys, Cal (14) and Toby (11), on a summer-long trip across the country. They detailed their 43-day adventure on their blog, Great Green Iguana (greatgreeniguana.com).

Next we head over to Chilmark, Mass., on Martha's Vineyard, where **Joe Liu,** his wife, Megan Glasheen, and daughter, Simone (13), spent a week with **Steve Abrahamson,** his wife, Maritza Guzman, and their daughter, Sofia, and Steve Cancian '86 and his wife, Hanne Rasmussen. Joe reports that Steve A. is the direct mail guru at Planned Parenthood and Steve C. is a landscape architect in Los Angeles. Joe directs campaign strategy for AARP. Lazy days on the beach and at the agricultural fair were interrupted only by Joe's triathlon workouts. Since finishing chemo for lymphoma in December, he has bounced back and participated in three triathlons, a 50-mile bike race and the Ragnar Relay Series from Saratoga Springs to Lake Placid. Joe said they were all wondering whether there are other 1980s-era Columbians on the island in August who might want to meet up for a family picnic at Black Point Beach next year.

As we in the land of academia know, there is no rest for the … under-50 Ph.D.s! **Cathy Webster** and I were making trouble, or maybe I was making trouble and Cathy was making great strides, as she became the chair of her department — Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultural Studies — at the University of Central Oklahoma after (thankfully) surviving the insane weather that blew through Oklahoma City and its environs.

Not content to just take on the duties of chair, Cathy also took a group of students to Italy and France, some of whom had barely been out of Oklahoma, much less the country, and published an article on the French author and filmmaker Jean Cocteau in an academic journal. In addition, Cathy went home to Connecticut for her 30th high school reunion.

My version of life in academialand is not much different. I finally had the opportunity to walk in a graduation ceremony, almost one year after defending my dissertation, but there is nothing like the ritual of being hooded to bring home the reality of having completed this (very long) journey. Like Cathy, I have been publishing in academic journals, though on topics such as women in existential psychology, and film and neurocognitive psychology. In addition, I am managing editor of Saybrook University's New Existentialists website, newexistentialists.com, which features the work of existential-humanistic psychologists from around the world writing on the relationship between this very human, non-diagnostic, respectful way of working with people and the issues of the day, globally and locally.

Madeleine Villanueva has joined the academia club. She recently began a nine-month professional placement as part of National Urban Fellows, which culminates in an M.P.A. fellowship. Madeleine says, "The placement is with The Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, an advocacy and direct services organization that stresses building upon existing strengths and fostering self-sufficiency. During this mentorship, I will be developing a Spanish language financial literacy curriculum geared toward their clients — women, mostly, who operate home-based day care centers."



Massimo "Max" Fielding Elser '85 GS and Tessa Laura Fahlbusch were married September 7 at the Acquedotto Romano Polo Club, south of Rome, Italy. Among the attendees were (left to right) Steven Carrara '84; Nickie Mai; John Schutty '80; the groom; the bride; Terry Jones '85 and his wife, Dominique; and Helene Alexopoulos and her husband, Lance Warrick '79. Also in attendance but not pictured was Gabriella Lorenzotti Moncada '85 Barnard.

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Diane Orlinsky had much to report after attending our reunion, writing, "Our 25th reunion was fantastic! My only regret was that I didn't make it to enough activities and didn't get to catch up with everyone.

"**Claudia Kraut Rimerman** lives in Stamford, Conn., with her husband and three children. She runs a boutique consulting firm specializing in health care reform and wellness, performs in local musical theatre, sings with a classic rock cover band, runs obstacle races like the Rugged Maniac 5K Obstacle Race and Warrior Dash, and has seven belts in Muay Thai kickboxing.

"**Laurence Holzman** '92L and his wife, Lara Hopfl Holzman '92L, live in Westchester with their sons, Andrew and Zach. Laurence still collaborates with **Felicia Needleman Levinson,** writing and producing original works of musical theatre.

"**Jonny Roskes** lives near Columbia (having moved back to NYC after a decade in Hong Kong), is a lawyer at Merrill Lynch and loves life in the city and otherwise."

Diane continued, "I live in Baltimore with my husband, Eric, and four children. I am a partner in a dermatology practice and an assistant professor of internal medicine and dermatology at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. In my (little) spare time, I serve on the boards of the Johns Hopkins Alumni Council and the Family Tree in Maryland, as well as volunteer at Pathfinders for Autism, the Dermatology Foundation, Columbia's Alumni Representative Committee and my four children's schools."

As a relatively new father of two who is still struggling with the

basic work/life balance, I read the previous paragraph with awe and amazement.

Todd Johnson wrote from Omaha, where he lives with his "great wife of 19 years, Mary (we met in London while getting our grad school degrees; she was/is from Omaha … I returned to Omaha). We have three great boys and, Mary claims, four boys under 49. Our sons, Ed, Sam and Charlie, are active in baseball, basketball and lacrosse. Note: No soccer players, so my coaching days ended mid-YMCA years.

"I have been with Gallup for 19 years. The first half of my career was spent running our various businesses around Latin America, and now I head Gallup's job creation and entrepreneurship practice. My hobbies consist of driving the boys to and from their practices and events (I hope that will change when the eldest turns 16) and running global marathons. [The company has] a group called 'Gallup Runs the World' and our 25th race was in Dublin in October."

Keep the updates coming! You can write me at either address at the top of the column or by using *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. I look forward to hearing from you.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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It's been a celebratory 2013 for many classmates, and we've now learned of another two who have said, "Bye-bye, bachelorhood."

On February 9, **Dan Loflin** married Diane Vrkic in a western-themed wedding appropriately set near the Alamo in San Antonio. **Matt Assiff** and **Russell Glober** were in attendance at the ceremony, which took place at Mission Concepcion, a historic mission established in 1716. The formal reception was held at the Briscoe Western Art Museum on the Paseo del Rio in San Antonio. Dan is an e.v.p. at Locus Energy in San Francisco.

Across the country, in New York City, **Jared Goldstein** married Amanda Levy in July at Flushing Town Hall, a historic, Victorian-era building in Queens. Among the Columbians in attendance were **Chris Mulligan, Tom Kamber,** Adam Schneider '90, Mark Novitz '91, Jonas Abney '92 and Gabe Fischbarg '87. Jared writes, "Rabbi David Kalb '89 JTS, my Delta Phi brother, officiated. He and I go back to ninth grade, which made the ceremony even more meaningful. The band was Gent Treadly, which is kind of a descendant of the Columbia band Dreamspeak. People loved the music and the fact that the singer goes back years with me and Amanda, allowing him to personalize his emceeing.

Chris Alexander '90 runs communications at 20th Century Fox Television for *Modern Family, Glee, New Girl, The Simpsons* and many other series.

"Amanda is on her way to a Ph.D. in science curriculum development at TC. She is a water ecologist and epidemiologist at the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. I own a NYC tour business, JaredtheNycTourGuide.com, through which I and associated guides give private walking tours to individuals, groups, schools and corporations. I also do tourism consulting on the business and creative ends. Amanda and I met in Tompkins Square Park in Alphabet City in 2009."

Of the event, **Tom Kamber** writes, "The wedding was gorgeous. Jared and Amanda are a beautiful couple and they found a lovely space in downtown Queens for the ceremony — it was like an urban oasis. They also tapped Jared's contacts in the music world to assemble the best band I've ever seen at a wedding. They rocked Flushing Town Hall like it was CBGB."

I've heard from many of you who are planning to attend our 25th Alumni Reunion Weekend, Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. It's a big one, and I hope to see you there. More details will be available next time around but for now registration is most important. Go to reunion.college.columbia.edu to stay updated on the event; registration opens in the early spring.

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Chris Alexander is the man about town(s)! In September he wrote, "**Janice Min** and I cross paths quite a bit, as she quite literally has transformed the flailing trade *The Hollywood Reporter* into Hollywood's 'must-read' weekly with stories, interviews and photography that rival *Vanity Fair*'s. Recently Janice was kind enough to be the featured speaker at my company's (20th Century Fox Television) monthly 'salon series,' in which we invite movers and shakers from all over the map to inspire our executives with stories of how they rose to the top of their fields and what fuels them creatively on and off the job. Guests have included film and TV producer Garry Marshall, Heart's Nancy Wilson and then-MOCA director Jeffrey Deitch. Of course, I made sure to pose several questions about our time at Columbia and how it figured into her success, because what publicist could resist a shameless plug for alma mater?

"More recently, we threw a premiere for our Emmy- and Golden Globe-winning [TV show] *Homeland* in the nation's capital. My fellow Columbia Musical Theatre Society pals **Melissa Landau Steinman** and **Liz Lubow Poston** joined the festivities at the Corcoran Gallery of Art, where we screened the third season premiere with the cast, creative team and Washington notables such as Maureen Dowd, Lawrence O'Donnell, Martha Raddatz and Bob Schieffer in attendance. Melissa and Liz are both successful (Melissa as an attorney specializing in sweepstakes issues and Liz as a public relations executive who works in crisis communications) and live a short distance from each other, so in some ways their adult lives mirror 1986, when they met in Carman. In many ways our reunion felt like no time had passed, although the refrain 'We're old' crept into the conversation more than once.

"I run communications for the studio behind *Modern Family, Glee, New Girl, Sons of Anarchy, The Simpsons, Family Guy* and about 30 other series, so life is hectic but mostly fun. My partner, Michael, and I have been together for more than 14 years (and still haven't tied the knot, despite the fact that it's now legal in California) and are the doting dads of two dogs and a bird. My spare time is spent on the tennis court, riding horses in the Hollywood Hills and in frequent visits to Massachusetts, where my three nephews are growing up at an alarming rate."

I always enjoy an update from **Gemma Tarlach**. She writes, "After nearly two years at McMurdo Station in Antarctica (see profile in January/February 2011), I headed to Norway to investigate an employment opportunity on a remote island a few hundred miles above the Arctic Circle in Vesterålen. To reach the place from Oslo, I had to take a plane to a bus to a boat to a bus to a boat to another bus to a Zodiac inflatable. Although the job didn't turn out to be as advertised, I did spend an amazing month surrounded by some of the most beautiful landscape I've ever encountered (and don't forget I've lived in New Zealand!). I returned to Milwaukee and joined the staff of the recently relocated science magazine *Discover*. In addition to editing, I write features now and then, including two in our December issue — one of which is an interview with Columbia's own Dr. Stephen Morse about pandemics.

"I purchased an adorable 1922 cottage that is a block away from the family home (and still part-time residence) of Gov. Scott Walker and though I have yet to ask to borrow a cup of sugar from the guv, the state troopers parked across the street 24/7 are always friendly. And watchful. Very watchful.

"When not pulling up carpet or writing about tissue conduction technology, I'm enjoying spending time with my adoptees from our local animal control (where I volunteer): Charles, an older cat, and Tyche, a 7-month-old pit bull mix who is the sweetest, most social dog I've ever had. One of the main reasons I quit the nomad lifestyle and left my beloved Antarctica, believe it or not, was to experience the joy of waking up with a furry something snuggled against me once again, and both Charles and Tyche (named for the Greek goddess of fortune) are fulfilling that role quite nicely. My dark historical novel, *Plaguewalker*, is selling particularly well in Spain and the United Kingdom. Also: I did not make any of this up."

Classmates, I'd like not to have to make anything up about anyone but if no one writes to me, well, we shall see what my fingers end up typing on the keyboard. Happy holidays to all!

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I'm sorry to report that **Solomon Johnson** passed away in September. Solo was football's Ivy League Rookie of the Year for 1988 and many of you will remember that he scored the winning touchdown in the historic game against Princeton that same year, which ended our 44-game losing streak. After school, he got into the music business, married and had two children. He

was surrounded by family and friends when he passed away. Thank you to **Greg Abbruzzese** and **Javier Loya** for letting me know.

Carl Marci and his wife are thrilled to announce that they had a son in February. They live and work in Boston, where Carl divides his time between the faculty of Massachusetts General Hospital at Harvard and his company, Innerscope Research, which does consumer neuroscience.

Beth Moorthy moved from Myanmar back to New York in 2007. Then, restless after five years at the United Nations Department of Political Affairs, she moved with her husband to Monrovia, Liberia, in November 2012. She is now the head of the United Nations Agency for Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) in Liberia, working on land and conflict issues, and plans to stay one more year. Lacking the amusements that NYC offered, she is also learning to surf the epic West African waves (unsuccessfully so far).

Debra (Gualandi) Williams is the Upper School principal of the International School of Florence in Italy, where she lives with her three daughters and wine-maker/archaeologist husband.

I hope you all have a joyous holiday season! Until next time … cheers!

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Let's start with some unqualifiedly good news. **Brad Randelman** reported that not only was he promoted to full professor at Emory but he also published his first textbook, *Corneal Collagen Cross-Linking*. Congratulations on both counts, Brad!

We lost a classmate since I last wrote. I'm sad to report that **Meredith Norton** passed away on August 2, 2013. I think the best indication of how loved and dear Meredith was to so many of you is the number of independent emails I received from you, making sure that I knew about her passing and giving me information to include. There have been many wonderful words written of Meredith. Of those, I think the most fitting to share is a paragraph from her obituary, shared with me by her father, John Norton '57:

"All who knew Meredith agree that trying to describe her exhausts synonyms and adjectives for an energetic, incandescent free spirit who was amusing, argumentative, brilliant, challenging, creative, dramatic, engaging, generous, humorous, imaginative, insightful, inspirational, irreverent, kind, mischievous, multi-talented, off-the-hook, unconventional, unique and witty. She is remembered unanimously as someone who always had a different slant on every subject and was willing to try something new and interesting."

I couldn't agree more.

Which brings me to some news about the future of this column: I'm going to be saying goodbye.

I have completed 21 full years of providing you updates, news both happy and sad, and a slice of life from our classmates. It has been genuinely fun, and an absolute privilege to do so. But I've realized that it's time to pass the torch. I am grateful that I am able to do so to someone who I am completely confident will be able to handle the task.

He's a journalist, and has handled press conferences with no one less than the President of the United States. I'm speaking of **Olivier Knox,** who, in between flights on Air Force One and camping out in the Rose Garden while on assignment for Yahoo! News, will begin bringing you all of your class news. If you treat him half as well as you treated me during these two decades, he's in for a great assignment. Please send your news to Olivier at oknox9602@gmail.com or via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

I will certainly miss this space but I know I will still see many of you at reunions. Thank you for making this an enjoyable and long-lasting endeavor.

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Not a lot to report for this issue, but first, some condolences. Our thoughts go to **Kevin Connolly** and his brother, Michael Connolly '92, over the loss of their father, James F. Connolly, in late May. Condolences also go to **Julie Davidson Hassan,** who lost her mother, Jane M. Davidson, unexpectedly in late August.

Congratulations to **Brad Stone** on the release of his book *The Everything Store: Jeff Bezos and the Age of Amazon*, which was published in October. I saw Brad interviewed on a number of morning shows the week his book was released, including *CBS This Morning* and MSNBC's *Morning Joe,* among others. Brad is a senior writer for *Bloomberg Businessweek* and lives in San Francisco with his twin daughters.

Please send your updates to either of the addresses at the top of the column or submit a note using *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Many of us saw each other last spring at Alumni Reunion Weekend but that's no excuse for letting the volume of news abate. And if anything, now is a perfect moment to strengthen our recently renewed connections! I look forward to hearing from you.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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Hi folks! I hope you're all saving the date for our 20th reunion next spring. Who can believe that it's been two decades since we left the Low Steps, Butler Library and our Columbia College days behind us? It will be great to catch up and relive old memories. More details to come in the next issue.

And in the meantime …

Happy news from **Mark Robilotti,** who married Karin Mazurs in July. The newlyweds divide their time between Manhattan and Connecticut, where Mark is executive counsel for transactions and finance at General Electric. Among the many College alums in attendance at the wedding were Mark's sister, Elizabeth Robilotti '99, and her husband, Rit Aggarwala '93.

On the career front, an exciting update arrived from my fellow Minneapolitan **Alan Berks:** This fall he began a position as director of communications for Pillsbury United Communities, one of the largest and oldest human service agencies in Minnesota. It's the umbrella organization for five diverse neighborhood centers, more than 60 specific programs and a number of innovative social enterprise/business ventures.

For the past three years, Alan had been communications director at Pillsbury House + Theatre, one of those neighborhood organizations, and in his new role he will apply the creativity his team used there across the Pillsbury United Communities network. "The belief is that more creative communications strategies can help make the service work itself easier, better and even more inspiring," Alan writes. "As a creative writer, I'm looking forward to the chance to hear stories from all these amazingly different communities and people. I relish any excuse to ask people probing questions about their lives, so this is like Christmas for me."

Congrats to both Mark and Alan, and thanks for sharing the news. Everyone else — please send an update! You can use either address at the top of the column or submit one through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Until next time!

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David Webber and his wife, Irit, have added a daughter to their family. Eliane arrived on July 1 and enjoys the company of her brothers, Boaz and Noam. The family moved from New York to the Boston area three years ago, where David is a professor at Boston University School of Law. He specializes in shareholder activism, shareholder litigation, securities fraud, M&A litigation and, more generally, in the limitless ways in which people fight over money. David has appeared on Nightly Business Report and NPR's Marketplace and has testified about pension governance issues in California and New Hampshire, according to his BU web page. He writes, "I love writing and teaching and am very grateful for the chance to do both. Locally, I see my first-year, eighth-floor Carman roommate **Alex Cortez.**"

David also caught up with **Ryan**

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Mossman, Craig Bernstein, David Attanasio, Alex Cortez, Hilton Romanski and Bert Galleno '96 at Ryan's 40th birthday party in Houston last fall. David would love to hear from Boston-area alums.

Speaking of Hilton, he lives in Palo Alto, Calif., has been at Cisco for 12 years and is s.v.p., corporate development, leading the company's M&A and investment strategy. He says the work is still fun and challenging.

Hilton and his wife, Emily Meyer, have two kids: Clement (5), who will begin kindergarten next year, and Georgia (3). Emily is the co-founder of a successful kids clothing company, Tea Collection. (I can report that the brand is wildly popular on the Upper West Side and a favorite of my 3-year-old daughter.) Check out some lovely photos of Hilton, Emily and the kids here: teacollection.com/about-tea/people. The brand is "bringing global influences into accessible designs that are just awesome and fun for kids to wear," Hilton writes.

As for Ryan, he writes that the last year was full of Columbia reunions. He and his wife, Sydni, celebrated their 10th anniversary with **Jon Berkun** and his wife, Lauren, in Miami, dancing the night away at a club, Liv. "As much as I hate to admit it, we were definitely the old people in the room," Ryan writes. "At least Jon and I had beautiful dates."

Ryan also celebrated pre-wedding festivities for Shane Mogensen '96 in Copenhagen, Denmark, with Hilton and Josh Shoemake '96. The highlight of the trip was eating at Noma, he writes, "the top-ranked restaurant in the world. We ate a very unusual 18-course menu that included ants, Swedish moss, crab and scallops with squid ink, to name some of the more interesting and delicious items."

The wedding itself was held in Bozeman, Mont., he adds, and among the other guests were Hilton, **David Webber,** Gabe Stadecker '96, Slain Jamison Wilde '94, **Thad Tracy** and Glen Morgan '93.

Finally, Ryan writes, the reunions this year so far have been limited to **David Attanasio,** in New York and in Texas, for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Ryan also caught up with Tom Kitt '96.

Thanks for the news, and please send in updates about your own 40th birthday celebrations with classmates.

Columbia College Alumni on Facebook

Check out the Columbia College Alumni page!
facebook.com/alumnicc
Like the page to get alumni news, learn about alumni events and College happenings, view photos and more.

96

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Malik Rashid joined the Asian Development Bank in Manila, Philippines, about 1½ years ago. His wife and 2-year-old daughter joined him there last fall. Malik says he and his family are enjoying the adventures of living in Southeast Asia and hope to be back in New York after his assignment ends in 2015. If you find yourself in Manila, Malik welcomes your getting in touch: mmr20@columbia.edu.

Jill Van Beke is the East Tennessee director for Launch Tennessee, which supports high-growth entrepreneurial activity in the state. Jill and her husband, Chris, had another daughter last November, so now they have Anna (3) and Charlotte (1).

Kelly Koch, my Carman 5 floormate, is at Convergys in Cincinnati, working in market research analytics for several financial services, government, healthcare and technology clients. Kelly designs research studies and analyzes data from multiple sources to deliver strategic recommendations to clients.

Stefania Van Dyke (née Rosenstein) lives in Denver with her husband, Geoff, and their boys, Sebastian (6) and Leo (4). Stefania has worked at the Denver Art Museum since December 2012 as a master teacher for textile art and special projects, helping with the reinstallation of the museum's textile art collection and developing an exploratory education studio. The reinstallation was the impetus this past summer for a museum-wide celebration of textiles called "Spun"; all manner of fiber art invaded every nook and cranny of the museum.

Alisa Tang, who has been in Asia for 11 years, now lives in a small cabin on a riverine island near central Bangkok. In September 2012, she and her husband, Landry Dunand, welcomed a daughter, Luciole, which means "firefly" in French. After freelancing for several years, Alisa recently started as a correspondent for the Thomson Reuters Foundation, the humanitarian news arm of Reuters. She edits news from around the world and reports stories from the Asia-Pacific region. For the time being, she works mostly from home, and each evening takes Luciole for a bike ride around the island to see the birds, lizards and fireflies.

Sameer Ahuja writes that he and his wife, Sima (née Saran) '96 Barnard, are doing well. They live in NYC and have two daughters, Anya (4) and Ella (almost 1). Sameer recently launched a hedge fund, Dera Capital Advisors, which specializes in the systematic trading of global financial and commodity futures. Sima works for Bloomberg.

Rhonda Moore was looking for international human resources experience so she is living in the Caribbean. Now, she shares, she recently edited the first (January 2013) human resources magazine, *HR-MATTers,* in Trinidad and Tobago. It has been distributed in hard copy to various government agencies and ministries in the country. You can check it out at hrmatt.com/downloads/hr-matters-v1.pdf. Rhonda is the HR manager and human capital consultant at a new Deloitte on Trinidad and Tobago. As part of her volunteer work, she is the HR education/research officer for HRMATT (Human Resource Management Association of Trinidad and Tobago).

Moha Desai Patel is taking a sabbatical from her professional career advising on healthcare matters to dedicate herself even more to her community and family. Her second son, Vikram, was born on August 6. Moha; her husband, Vinit Patel (an IP attorney); and her older son, Devraj (5 and in kindergarten), are enjoying spending time with him!

Michael Cavanaugh joined Resilience Capital Partners, a leading private equity firm, in 2006 and has been responsible for deal origination, investment due diligence and portfolio company oversight. Prior to joining Resilience, Michael was a turnaround consultant at Conway MacKenzie, an M&A attorney at Kaye Scholer, and a distressed securities trader and investment banker at Merrill Lynch. Michael earned a J.D. from University of Michigan Law and an M.B.A. from the University of Michigan Business School. He also holds the CPA/ABV and CTP designations.

Keep those notes coming, folks. For all of you *Breaking Bad* fans, I leave you with this:

"If that's true, if you don't know who I am, then maybe your best course would be to … tread lightly."
—*Heisenberg aka W.W.*

97

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CC '97, our Class Notes are quite short this time. Please remember to share all of your exciting goings-on by writing to me at either of the addresses at the top of the column. You can also submit a note via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Here's the news I do have:

Karen Lee and her husband, Jean-Marc Grolier, welcomed baby Bryce on August 28. He joins triplets Charlotte, Alex and Devin (1). Having four babies under the age of 2 keeps Karen busy!

Kavita Kumar Puri had a second daughter, Maya Kumar Puri, on December 19, 2012. She also has left Arnold & Porter and will be an appellate litigator for the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission in Washington, D.C. Kavita and her family live in Arlington, Va.

Sabra Gandhi was married at the beginning of 2012 to Parker Sellers and they had a son, Rohan, on August 1, 2012. Sabra has a law practice in Los Angeles and also recently joined Nest Seekers International as the managing broker of its soon-to-open Beverly Hills real estate office.

Jason Klein has moved back to NYC and was elected president of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association in March. It's a two-year, volunteer position. This summer, after seven years as the Hillel director at University of Maryland Baltimore County, he became director of the Center for Jewish Life at Jewish Community Project of Lower Manhattan. Shortly before leaving Baltimore, Jason and Hussein Rashid '96 spoke together on a panel about creating LGBTQ-inclusive religious communities.

And I, **Sarah Katz,** was honored this fall to be named one of Philadelphia's *The Legal Intelligencer*'s 2013 "Lawyers on the Fast Track."

98

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I hope you're all having a wonderful winter. Here's a look at what '98ers have been up to recently.

Congratulations to **Rebecca "Rivi" Handler-Spitz** Ph.D., who has joined the Asian languages and cultures department at Macalester, a liberal arts college in Saint Paul, Minn., as a tenure-track assistant professor. Rivi will teach such courses as "First Year Chinese," "Masterpieces of Chinese Literature" and "Translating Chinese:

Theory and Practice." She is also working on several scholarly books, including a volume of scholarly essays and a translation with Columbia University Press. Before her position at Macalester, Rivi, who earned an M.A. and a Ph.D. from Chicago, was an assistant professor at Middlebury.

Another round of congratulations is in order for **Jeannette Jakus,** who is a board-certified dermatologist and has joined a private practice with offices in Manhattan and Long Island. In the fall she left New York for a yearlong fellowship in the south of France with Galderma, a pharmaceutical company specializing in dermatologic drugs, where she will learn about early drug development. What an amazing adventure for Jeannette, her husband, **Ben Kornfeind,** and their children, Sam and Lily.

I inadvertently left some baby news out of my last column: **Suehyun Kim** is the mother of boy-girl twins born in December 2012. That's the reason she was unable to attend Alumni Reunion Weekend in May — the babies were only 6 months old — and she says she and her husband, Michael Lindo, had only just figured out how to get them to sleep plus they weren't ready for traveling. The babies, who turn 1 this December, are named Michaela and Christian Lindo. Suehyun and Michael, a licensed clinical social worker with his own counseling and consulting practice, live in Santa Monica, Calif.

That's it for this column but if you're on Facebook, please join the Columbia College Class of '98 Group! And please send notes to my email address at the top of the column or through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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99

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By the time you read these Class Notes, we'll be six months shy of our 15-year Alumni Reunion Weekend. The festivities kick off with an evening reception on Thursday, May 29, and last until Sunday, June 1, when we conclude with a brunch.

The Reunion Committee consists of me, **Sameer Shamsi, Tony Munoz, Nina Tannenbaum, Eunice Lee, Stacy Rotner, John Bennett, Adrienne Carter, Charlie Leykum, David Kwon, Allison Margolin, Christina Cue, Alisha Alexander, Eleisa Coster, Jodi Materna, Lauren Gershell, Steve Boothe, Robert Hora** and **Caitlin Pannese.**

Friday has multiple events on campus and then a cocktail reception hosted by one of our classmates (details to come). Saturday is the day not to miss. The Alumni BBQ will be held on South Lawn followed by a wine tasting in the early evening. Our class reception and dinner will be held in the C.V. Starr East Asian Library in Kent Hall on Saturday. The event is a step up from our 10-year reunion dinner, which was held behind Uris Hall. With that said, our 10-year reunion had the largest turnout compared to any prior class' 10-year reunion and I'm sure we'll have another great turnout in 2014. Saturday night will be capped off by the Starlight Reception on Low Plaza.

Hotels on the Upper West Side book up quickly, as other Columbia classes and schools hold their reunions the same weekend. So start planning! Hope to see many of you in May. In the meantime, don't hesitate to send a note to say hello and let us know how you are doing. Use either of the addresses at the top of the column or *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

00

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Nugi Jakobishvili and his wife, Isabelle Levy '05, welcomed Raphael Levi Jakobishvili in June. The proud parents write, "Big sister Flora adores her new real-life doll."

Jeremy Kadden and his wife, Jana, welcomed their second son, Emmanuel Jasper (Manny) on August 26, "just a smidgen under three years after our first son, Siggy, was born (in September 2010)." Jeremy has lived in Washington, D.C., since 2002 and has worked in and around government for most of that time, including a seven-year stint working on Capitol Hill for several members of Congress. Since August 2012 he has worked at InterAction, a coalition of foreign aid NGOs, where he is a lobbyist.

Please share news about yourself, your career, your family and so on! You can write me at either address at the top of the column or by using *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. I hope to hear from you.



Joel Bass and Michelle Grzan '01 were married August 24 at Red Maple Vineyard in West Park, N.Y. Pictured left to right are the bride's parents, John and Milvana Grzan; the groom; the bride; and the bride's brother, John-Michael Grzan '06.
PHOTO: MARISSA MASSIMO

01

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I hope everyone enjoys the holiday season. Best wishes for a wonderful and safe New Year!

Michelle Grzan and Joel Bass were married on August 24 at Red Maple Vineyard in West Park, N.Y. **Jaime Pannone** gave a rock star performance of "Ho Hey" by the Lumineers during the ceremony. Other Columbia attendees included **Kelle Oberle Bowersox** with her husband, Mark, and daughter, Avery; **Rebecca Siegel Bradley** and her husband, John; **Anne-Marie Ebner** and her wife, Jamie; **Sarah Weakley;** John-Michael Grzan '06; and Namrata Khimani '06.

Rabia Saeed wrote with exciting news: "My husband, Parker, and I welcomed Sylvie Elan Hayden into the world on July 31. She weighed a not-so-whopping 6 lbs., 12 oz., for which mommy thanks her. We couldn't be more thrilled."

Alisa Amarosa Wood and **Alastair Wood** welcomed their third child, Theodore (Teddy) William Wood, at 9:25 a.m. on August 23. He weighed 6 lbs., 12 oz.

Cambria Matlow and Ben Bach were married this past summer.

Eileen McGinnis and Sol Swords were married in Austin on September 2. In attendance were **Stephen Luk, Brian Gum, Michael Shy** and **Ada Yung.**

Congratulations to all the new parents and newlyweds!

Stuart Dearnley writes, "Three years ago, I left the advertising industry to pursue my dream of being a fiction writer. To that end, I'm getting an M.F.A. at the University of Arkansas and have been teaching undergraduates 'Comp 101.'" Stu also won the *Playboy* College Fiction Contest; it came with a $3,000 prize and his story was published in the October issue. It can be accessed online through playboy.com.

Congratulations, Stu!

Thanks to all who wrote. Please keep in touch using my email address at the top of the column or through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

02

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We have a host of exciting updates, and I would like to share one of my own as well. Our second son,

Aarish, was born on July 13. My husband, Aroon, and I are incredibly grateful for this wonderful addition to our family.

Orit Barnea Seif and her husband, Yehuda '00, welcomed son Ilan Yaakov on June 13.

Jane Yang finished her vascular surgery fellowship at the University of Miami and is now a vascular surgery attending and an assistant professor at UCLA and Olive View-UCLA Medical Center.

Purdy Tran Bailer and her husband, Josh Bailer, welcomed their first child, Maximilian Hudson Bailer. Max came in weighing 7 lbs., 6 oz., a week early — he was eager to meet the world. They love the time with their future Columbia Lion.

Justin Wall recently completed two consecutive three-year retreats in the Tibetan Buddhist tradition and now runs a retreat center in the smoky mountains of Tennessee.

Mariel Wolfson took a new position as a HarvardX Fellow at Harvard. HarvardX is the university's recently launched online education venture, part of the EdX partnership between Harvard and MIT. She will work on using technology to increase access to higher education and also on integrating technology into traditional courses.

Evan Bass has his first feature film credit as a producer and is aiming for distribution this fall; it's called *The Eve* and is a Hitchcock-styled psychological horror-thriller set on Martha's Vineyard on New Year's. He also has launched a YouTube Channel (eBassEntertainment) that features new comedic Web series and sketches every Monday. And, on the acting/writing front, Evan was in England for a few weeks working on the National Institutes of Health-funded Alzheimer's Theatre project with Hearthstone Alzheimer Care (writing, studying and developing interactive plays specifically for individuals with Alzheimer's). He writes, "We are in our final year of development and are working on developing training materials so people all over the country/world can put on these types of plays, which have already been shown to battle depression in this population equal to, if not better, than medication." Aside from that and other acting projects, Evan continues to expand the NYC-based tutoring company that he runs.

Sara Velasquez lives in Pakistan, where she consults for various INGOs, and gave birth to a daughter in March 2013. She had a supporting role in a movie, *Edwin: My Life As a Koont*, which was screened recently at the Los Angeles Comedy Festival (spookypictures.co.nz/FeatureFilms/Edwin/Edwin.html).

David Epstein's first book, *The Sports Gene: Inside the Science of Extraordinary Athletic Performance*, came out August 1 and was given a coveted Kirkus Reviews star designating it a "book of exceptional merit." David writes that the book covers "all that we've learned about the genetics of athleticism in the decade since the sequencing of the human genome, and reporting the book took me below the equator and above the Arctic Circle. It has since reached No. 9 on the list of *New York Times* best sellers in hardcover nonfiction." [Editor's note: See Bookshelf.]

Zecki Dossal '13 Business has been co-heading the private equity and venture practice at Gerson Lehrman Group and overseeing its work in social impact.

Elisabeth Ryan is deputy general counsel for the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security. She also teaches courses in legal writing and firearms law at Harvard Extension School - Harvard University.

Samantha Lee '03 lives in Brooklyn Heights and recently joined Animal Planet as director of development.

Miriam Sheinbein writes, "I work for Planned Parenthood Mar Monte as associate medical director for primary care, and I teach in the UC San Francisco General Hospital Family and Community Medicine Residency Program." She adds that if any Lions are in her neighborhood (the Mission in San Francisco), they are invited to check out the restaurants she owns with her husband, Yaron, and Yaron's brother, Noam Elcott '00. They are Local's Corner and Local Mission Eatery; in addition, they will also be opening a grocery market.

Daniel Lupo graduated from Warrant Officer Candidate School in August and has entered the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence in Fort Rucker, Ala.

03

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It's been nice to connect with a number of you during my recent travels.

Will Hu and I caught up over dinner while I was in San Francisco, and it was great to hear about Will's married life (to Jessica Meksavan '05 Barnard) and work in real estate. Will mentioned that he often meets up with **Danny Lee,** who is based in Los Angeles.

I also had dinner with **Shaun Ting** in Singapore — he runs Ting Capital Partners and travels extensively throughout Asia for business — and met up with a few Columbians for drinks at Club Street Social, a bar opened by Min Chan '05 in Singapore. These included **Kenneth Sim** (whom I had not seen in more than 10 years), who works in different capacities for the Singaporean government; Clara Kim '06; Daniel Chen '06E; and Chee Kin Gan '05E. Club Street Social has quickly become one of the most popular places for good drinks in Singapore. Enough from me, though — now on to your updates.

Francis Lora writes, "As a therapist, life coach, writer and speaker, I aim to improve everyone's quality of life through teaching, writing, workshops and media communications; I help people find, identify and realize their mission so that my services are no longer needed.

"To accomplish this, I left my job at the New York State Psychiatric Institute's Washington Heights Community Service inpatient unit and now work at Inwood Community Services' Get Centered Mental Health Clinic and began working independently, traveling across NYC to people's homes and offices to provide my services as 'The Traveling Therapist.'

"Due to my new schedule, I have been better able to balance my work and personal life. I recently enjoyed my five-year wedding anniversary with Jennifer Guerrero '03 Barnard, as well as our son's, Alejandro Miguel Lora, second birthday."

Samantha Lee writes, "I live in Brooklyn Heights and recently joined Animal Planet as director of development. I work with producers to develop new shows and have the bonus of getting to help out with the Puppy Bowl. Life is good!"

Fiona Sze-Lorrain's second book of poetry, *My Funeral Gondola*, was published in May. She also has translated two books of poetry by contemporary Chinese poets, Bai Hua and Yu Xiang, both out this year.

Thomas E. Anderson II writes, "I completed a summer internship with Lifeforming Leadership Coaching, where I assisted the director of training with program development."

Graciete Lo writes, "Things are going well in Hawaii. I have been living here for almost 2½ years now! Can't believe it. I am a clinical psychologist at the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. I visited NYC in September and had a brief reunion with **Karolina Dryjanska.** Even though I miss New York, I am staying in Hawaii indefinitely. You can't beat the perfect weather, scenic beaches and mountains, and the aloha spirit.

"Since I don't know a whole lot of people here, I have been involved with revamping the Columbia Alumni Club of Hawaii and trying to get more local alums involved. In August, I hosted a send-off event for students starting at Columbia in the fall, and in early October I hosted a 'Columbia Connect' happy hour networking event. It was great meeting alums who are at different stages in their lives and careers as well as those from schools other than the College."

Mario Lugay writes, "I moved to Oakland, Calif., three years ago and work at the Kapor Center for Social Impact. That year I also co-founded the New American Leaders Project, which partners with immigrant-serving organizations to identify, recruit and train first- and second-generation immigrants to run for elected office."

Beth Murphy (née Priest) writes, "My husband, daughter and I welcomed a son, Cameron Edward, on December 3, 2012. We live in Chicago, where I am a senior project manager for a small architecture firm. We sadly missed the reunion this past spring but plan to visit Columbia while in New York during the holidays."

Jonathan Manes writes, "My wife, Nicole Hallett, and I recently moved back to New Haven, Conn., from Brooklyn. Our son, Ezra, is almost 1. And we both recently started work as clinical teaching fellows at Yale Law. I teach in the Media Freedom and Information Access Clinic, where I supervise law students litigating open government and First Amendment cases. We had a big win recently when the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court ordered the government to declassify decisions about NSA surveillance in response to a motion that we filed together with the ACLU. I would love to meet up with any '03 grads in the New Haven area."

Andrea Paul writes, "My husband, Jacques Paul '03E, and I moved from the United Kingdom

to Boston in early September. I am a corporate associate at Mintz Levin, and Jacques is designing jet engines at General Electric. We are thrilled to be back in the United States and we would love to connect with any Columbia alums in Boston."

After taking an almost two-year hiatus in which he studied improv comedy and acting, **Steve Ling** recently moved to Bermuda to resume his career as a consulting actuary for Tokio Millenium Reinsurance Co. He loves the island life and is delving into as many new and exciting activities as he can find, many of which involve water. He expects to be back in the NYC area by mid-2014.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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04

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Greetings from New York City! This year is coming to a close, and I hope you all had a spectacular one. I'm sure that 2014 will have plenty of surprises and adventures — one of which is our 10-year Alumni Reunion Weekend! Mark your calendars: Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. I am expecting a strong showing from our class. There are some great events scheduled, and it will be wonderful to see familiar faces strolling around campus again.

Congratulations to **Alisa K. Weilerstein,** who married Rafael Payare in August. Alisa is a cellist and in August played with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at the Ravinia Festival in Highland Park, Ill. Last November, she performed with the New York Philharmonic at Avery Fisher Hall. In addition, she was a 2011 MacArthur Fellow.

Congratulations also to **Andrew Lebwohl,** who reports, "I married Carly Weisenberg on August 25, which was also the one-year anniversary of my business, Karaoke Heroes. **Jeffrey Chubak** and **Ilana Golant** were in attendance as were Jaime Sneider '02; Marc Tobak '05; his wife, Elizabeth Berkowitz '06; Steve Melzer '05; his fiancée, Tracy Massel '06 Barnard; and my gazillion family members with Columbia degrees of one type or another whom I will not list because I don't want to offend anyone by leaving them out."

Francoise Villeneuve writes, "This year, my husband, Ed, and I welcomed Jacques Edward Andre Hardy into the world. He's our first child and a cheery little lad. **Samantha Debicki** gifted him a Columbia onesie and he seems excited about lion noises, so in a few years, who knows?"

Oleg Ilitchev and his wife had their first child, Adriana Ilitcheva, in May.

Alex Hardiman and **Brian Platzer** welcomed their son, Owen Hardiman Platzer, in July.

Congratulations to all the new parents!

Alex Davis recently finished a one-year clerkship at the U.S. District Court in New Jersey. He is now in San Francisco, where he will soon start work in the commercial litigation department at Kirkland & Ellis. He looks forward to connecting with other alums in the Bay Area and can be reached at agd36@columbia.edu.

Sophia Beal is an assistant professor of Portuguese at Minnesota.

Phil Matricardi '12 Business is a financial consultant for Sapient Global Markets. He lives in Brooklyn.

Joshua Arthur writes, "After nearly five years in the civilian world following my time in the Army, I went back to business school and started at Carnegie Mellon in August. I plan to work in management or strategy consulting following school. I have yet to connect with **Michael Landau** but I know he's here in Pittsburgh as well!"

Craig Hollander recently earned a Ph.D. in 19th-century American history from Johns Hopkins and will spend the next couple of years as the Behrman Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of History at Princeton.

Aaron Schwartz lives in San Francisco, where he runs Modify Watches.com with Ayo Oluwole '05, Modify's v.p. of marketing. They create custom watches for big companies (e.g., Google, Nike) and have been featured in *The New York Times* and *Self*, on *Good Morning America* and more.

Jason Burwen reports, "It's been a big year. I married Eleanor in July on the Russian River in California. **Mischa Byruck** served admirably as a groomsman and MC, and I was lucky enough to have **Mark Weiner,** Elizabeth Dwoskin '05 and Leah Yananton '04 GS join the celebration. We left San Francisco and moved to Washington, D.C., where I work on energy innovation policy at the Bipartisan Policy Center."

David Molko writes, "I recently relocated from Atlanta to Hong Kong, continuing my work as a senior producer for CNN International. However, I'm moving away from day-to-day news and working across all our feature programming in Asia Pacific. For example, I'm producing an interview with the Thai prime minister in Bangkok and took one of our other programs on the road to Shanghai in October. All very exciting but after five years of a somewhat peaceful life in Atlanta, I'm having to relearn how to live in an urban environment, and everything that comes along with that. Still, it's great, because there's just no way to get bored in Hong Kong and the region."

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition of Class Notes! Please keep your submissions coming, and happy 2014!



Erica Yen '05 and Phuong Le were married in August at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. Among the guests were (top row, left to right) Johnny Lan '05E; Michael Sin '05; Kenneth Yen '06E; Vivian Chiang; Yan Ting '06E; Emily Tsai '05E; Jennifer Lee '05; and the brother of the groom, Huy Le; and (bottom row, left to right) the bride, Justin Wei '05E and Jennifer Yang '06 Barnard.
PHOTO: LIN & JIRSA PHOTOGRAPHY

05

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Hello, Class of 2005! Ten years ago we were babies taking CC together. Today (spoiler alert), our classmates are having babies and teaching CC!

Let us begin this chapter in Class Notes with the weddings and babies:

In Croatia, Lisa Stublić '06 Runs Down a Dream

By Kim Martineau '97J

When the elite women marathoners finished the NYC Half last spring, newscasters announced the names of the Africans in first and second place but struggled to identify the 98-lb. Croat on their heels.

Lisa Stublić '06 is used to surprising people. She holds Croatia's marathon record and last year became the first marathoner — man or woman — to compete in the Olympics on Croatia's behalf. In March, Stublić achieved world-class status with her third-place finish at the NYC Half, followed by first-place at the Zurich Marathon just three weeks later.

At Columbia, Stublić was a strong runner but no one expected her to make a living at it. Her unlikely success started with a gamble: the decision after graduating to move to her father's native Croatia to learn the language. There, she discovered a knack for endurance running.

The intense yet flexible life of a pro athlete can sometimes feel to Stublić like a continuation of her days at Columbia. She rises early, trains hard in the morning and spends the rest of the day reading, eating and napping, with a light workout in the afternoon. In the typical week, she logs 110 miles. "It's fun for me," she says. "I feel like I'm in college without the classes."

Pushing her body to its physical limit did not come naturally. Stublić had to be prodded by a gym teacher at Crosby H.S. in Waterbury, Conn., where she grew up, to pick a sport. She went out for the swim team but found swimming laps so tiring that she quit after the warm-up. Next she tried cross country. "I told myself I'd do one race," she says. She won it and steadily grew faster. As a junior and senior, she was selected All New England in cross country and both seasons of track and field, setting several league records.



With a time of 1:09:18, marathoner Lisa Stublić '06 finished third at the 2013 NYC Half.
PHOTO: COURTESY NEW YORK ROAD RUNNERS

With offers from two Division I schools, American and Iona, Stublić chose Columbia for its political science program but after two semesters realized she was too "quiet and shy" for politics. Running, by contrast, allowed her feet to do the talking. As a junior, she came in second at the NCAA northeast regional in cross country and a year later finished 10th at the national championship in steeplechase. She credits her first coach at Columbia, Craig Anne Lake, for teaching her winning habits like eating well and getting enough sleep.

"I used to tell them [the students], the dorkier they could be, the better," says Lake, who now sells real estate in Boston. "Lisa seemed to listen. It is a hard concept to grasp because most people see it as a sacrifice."

Academically, Stublić gravitated toward the arts. Her major in music theory, it turns out, set her on the path to becoming an Olympic athlete. The summer of her junior year, she went to Croatia on a music-exchange program led by Jane McMahan, a Barnard associate in music. For three weeks, she played flute with a group of musicians performing in tiny medieval villages across the Grožnjan region.

The experience stayed with Stublić. While pouring lattes at Chokolat Patisserie, the coffee shop near Columbia where she worked, Stublić kept coming back to that "magical" summer. In January 2008, she flew to Croatia on a one-way ticket and went to live with her aunt. Eight months later, armed with a basic command of Croatian, she moved to Zagreb to teach English.

There, she found a coach with an unusual training regimen that involved running at five pace ranges set by how much lactic acid is in the body. The five paces, from slow-recovery to super-fast, are determined from blood samples taken after running at different speeds. Over time, Stublić's coach became convinced that her competitive advantage lay in the marathon, not steeplechase.

Once again Stublić took a leap. Confident in her training but with no actual marathon experience, she quit her day job as an English instructor, aiming to qualify for the Olympics and simultaneously earn the backing of the Croatian Olympic Committee. She ran the 2010 BMW

Berlin Marathon in 2:33:42, several minutes under the qualifying time she needed. In 2012, she went to London expecting to finish in the top 20 but a back cramp near the 15-mile point foiled her plan and she finished 52nd, in 2:34:03.

The failure taught Stublić a lesson. She needed to strengthen her back and core, so she added weight-lifting to her regimen. That may have led to her breakout performances at the NYC Half, where she won $5,500 and set a Croatian national record at 1:09:18, followed by her first-place finish at Zurich, where she set a Croatian marathon record of 2:25:44 (also her personal best).

Stublić credits a birth defect with helping her to run faster and farther. Born two months premature, her nostrils failed to fully develop, leaving her without a sense of smell or taste. A surgery at 19 largely restored both senses, allowing her to experience foods by their flavors rather than colors corresponding to their saltiness, sourness or bitterness. In addition to giving her a taste for dark chocolate, the surgery had another bonus: She immediately shaved a full minute off her best cross country time.

The Olympics are three years away but Stublić already has eyes on Rio, with plans to fly there with her team to train on the city's steamy streets. The humid weather makes the prospect of record times unlikely, but the demanding climate will give experienced marathoners a distinct edge. By 2016, Stublić expects to have it, with at least nine marathons under her belt.

To view a video of Stublić running the Zurich Marathon (she is featured at the beginning and end), go to Web Extras at college.columbia.edu/cct.

Kim Martineau '97J *writes about earth and environmental science at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory.*

Isabelle Levy and her husband, Nugi Jakobishvili '00, welcomed Raphael Levi Jakobishvili in June. Sister Flora adores her new real-life doll.

Erica Yen announces, "I was married in August to my law school sweetheart, Phuong Le, at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. A number of dear college friends came from near and far and even overseas to help celebrate, including bridesmaid **Jennifer Lee, Michael Sin, Emily Tsai '05E, Johnny Lan '05E, Justin Wei '05E, Yan Ting '06E,** Kenneth Yen '06E and Jennifer Yang '06 Barnard. I am in my sixth year at Reed Smith doing business litigation in downtown L.A. I miss playing with the Columbia University Orchestra but I get to play violin with lawyers and judges as part of the Los Angeles Lawyers Philharmonic ('L.A.'s only legal orchestra,' har har)."

Tracy Reuter (née Bucholski) writes, "This past year was quite the year for me and my husband, **John Reuter.** After five years in San Francisco, last October we moved just outside of Philadelphia, where we bought a big old house to renovate. Not long after moving in we found out we were expecting our first child! John William Reuter aka 'Jack' was born on August 1 at 9:53 p.m. He was 7 lbs., 8 oz., 21½ inches long and is absolutely gorgeous. We couldn't be happier."

On September 18, **Larry Manis** and **Amalia Goldvaser** welcomed their first child, Izzy Brendan.

Alexandra Harman reports, "I married Breene Murphy on September 7. We met in my hometown of Laguna Beach, Calif., through mutual friends. Breene was a member of UCLA's golf team and graduated in 2005 with a B.A. in international development studies. He graduated from USC in 2011 with a master's in creative writing."

On August 23, **Steve Poellot** and **Alexandra Dika Seggerman** welcomed their daughter, Lucy Dika Poellot, born at NYU Langone Medical Center.

Now on to the extremely interesting careers, including many an educator:

Elizabeth Dwoskin recently moved to San Francisco to write for *The Wall Street Journal*. Her beat is big data/big brother. Previously she was in Washington, D.C., where she covered politics and policy for *Bloomberg Businessweek*.

Kathryn Ebner reports, "I work for a new start-up, Pave, that provides a way to invest directly in people. We connect financially accomplished backers with ambitious and driven young people. It's unique and we have actually had some Columbia graduates use the platform to raise money as well as some Columbia alumni who have invested."

Erika Gibson writes, "After a few years working at the Governor's Energy Office in Colorado, I am pursuing a J.D. at the University of Oregon School of Law. As a Native Environmental Sovereignty Fellow I am exploring strategies for tribes to stop mercury pollution and also working on cutting-edge climate change litigation."

Brendon Jobs says, "I'm still teaching history, only now at the Girard Academic Music Program. What a joy to be around such creative kids. Activist work on the board of Teacher Action Group keeps me pretty busy besides. My family and friends have been such a blessing. At the school, I'm constructing an elective called 'Black Music as Rebellion,' meant to prepare my students to compete in this year's National History Day competition."

Elizabeth Dwoskin '05 has moved to San Francisco to write for *The Wall Street Journal;* her beat is big data/big brother.

Suzanne Schneider writes, "After a combined 11 years at Columbia, I will finally graduate in May with a Ph.D. in Middle Eastern studies. I am a cultural historian of the 19th and 20th century Levant, specializing in the histories of religious modernist movements in Jewish and Islamic societies. In addition to finishing my dissertation, I am teaching CC for the second year, which continues to be the uncontested high point of graduate school.

"My husband, Jonathan Reich '04, '07L, and I recently moved into a house in Park Slope with our twins, Sophia and Charlotte, who will be 3 in January. We love Brooklyn, especially since my former roommate and all-around best friend from Columbia, **Eliana Meirowitz,** lives on the first floor of our house with her husband and their baby boy. Any Columbians in Brooklyn are welcome to stop by our commune and say hello!"

Xan Nowakowski says, "For the past 3½ years I have been living in Tallahassee, Fla., and working on a variety of research projects for the Florida State University College of Medicine. My research focuses primarily on the experience and management of different chronic diseases, especially those that cause pain and/or functional limitation. I also provide input on study design, human subjects protections and data analysis techniques for a variety of team-based projects.

"Working for FSU has provided me with wonderful opportunities for service to the broader community. I and several of my colleagues participated in an effort to bring affordable health care services to the rural community of Havana, about 20 minutes north of Tallahassee. Our group recently formed a partnership with a Tallahassee-based community health clinic, Neighborhood Medical Center, to establish a full-service primary and specialty care clinic open several days a week. In a similar vein, I also serve on a statewide committee dedicated to addressing health disparities through creative research and collaboration.

"In addition to my various research and service activities, I have enjoyed a variety of teaching activities during my time at FSU. I have advised fieldwork for graduate students in multiple health-related disciplines, taught directed independent studies for undergraduates in health sciences and been a career mentor for students of all ages and backgrounds. I also teach a special topics course in medical sociology for undergraduate students.

"In addition, between August 2011 and September 2013, I completed my Ph.D. in medical sociology! Prior to earning a doctorate I earned an M.S. in medical sociology from FSU and an M.P.H. in health systems and policy from Rutgers/University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. I loved my time in the Ph.D. program, so much so that after graduating I immediately accepted an appointment to continue as an adjunct professor. I am also working with my department chair at the FSU College of Medicine to develop an early-career faculty position, which will allow me to focus on publishing my dissertation research and pursuing specialized training in advanced research methods.

"My Ph.D. program conferred two additional benefits, one that I had hoped for and one that I did not expect. It allowed me to turn a long history of negative experiences with my health — at 24, after nearly losing my life the previous year, I was diagnosed with an incurable autoimmune disease that causes severe inflammation in all of my mucous membranes — into a positive means of understanding and having an impact on the world. It also allowed me to meet, on my first day of study, an amazing person who quickly became more than just



Daniella Zalcman '09 and Joshua Robinson '08 were married September 1 at the Loeb Boathouse in Central Park. Celebrating were (left to right) Anand Krishnamurthy '07E; Zack Hoopes '12; Jonathan Kamran '08; David White '08; Chelsea Ward '09; Max Puro '09; the groom; Jonathan Tayler '09; the bride; Angela Radulescu '11; Jonathan August '09; John Atlas '09, '09E; Jacob Schneider '10; Tina Gao '10 Barnard; and James Long '08.

a colleague. The two years that I have spent with my partner, social psychologist J. Sumerau, have easily been the best of my life.

"While I will always face significant challenges with my health, I have found my way into a life and career that make these struggles feel worthwhile, and I give thanks for this good fortune every day. I hope that all of my Columbia friends are finding similar satisfaction on their own journeys. When I read our Class Notes I always feel so impressed by how all of you are giving back to the world, each in your own ways, and becoming the visionary leaders our professors and Dean Austin E. Quigley always told us we could be. I find it hard to believe that more than eight years have passed since we graduated. The memories we built together feel as fresh as if they happened yesterday, and the inspiration we found in one another is just as great."

Edward A. Rueda is honored to have taken part in the August 20 launch of Al Jazeera America, the United States' newest 24-hour cable news network. He is a digital producer for *Consider This*, a current affairs talk show hosted by Antonio Mora, which airs weeknights at 10 p.m. Edward works alongside fellow digital producer Leslie Hart '10J and they hope you tune in to the show. In his off-hours, Edward and his wife, Alexandra Zendrian, enjoy exploring the wonders of Long Island, often with their neighbors, Andrew Liebowitz '06 and his wife, Gail.

In August, **Juliet Grames** was promoted to associate publisher at Soho Press.

Chaim Kagedan reports, "I recently concluded a clerkship with Judge Robert W. Sweet of the Southern District of New York and now am a senior litigation associate in the New York office of Venable. My wife, Heather '05 Barnard, and I recently hosted a few alumni in an effort to convince them to join us in the suburban haven of Teaneck, N.J. Among the lucky recipients of our hospitality were my college roommate, **Binyamin Berkovits,** and his wife, Rachel '05 Barnard (née Pollack), as well as Nessa Heilpern Liben '06 Barnard and her husband, Noah Liben '05 GS."

Lauren Mancia writes, "On August 27, I began a position as an assistant professor of history at Brooklyn College (CUNY)."

Congratulations on growing up, Class of 2005!

06

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Kathleen Carr Adams writes, "Happy news! My daughter, Grace Hattler Adams, was born on July 3 in Washington, D.C. She weighed 8 lbs., 14 oz. and was 21½ inches long. My husband, Ford, and I call her Hattie. She joins brother Wells (4). We are with the Department of State at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, India, and will remain here through May."

Emily Bregel has returned to newspaper journalism after a two-year stint working on organic farms in the Southwest. She is an investigative reporter for the *Arizona Daily Star* in Tucson.

Julia Nagle earned a master's in public policy from UC Berkeley in 2011. She stayed in the Bay Area after graduation and works in education philanthropy.

Jaime Madell and **Negisa Balluku '06E** recently celebrated their second wedding anniversary (and their 10th year together). Jaime practices corporate law at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, and Negisa practices bankruptcy law at Dechert.

Stephen Kunen writes, "On June 29, I married the beautiful Handie Peng at Holy Rosary Church on Staten Island. We had our reception at Nicotra's Ballroom, also on Staten Island, and an extraordinary time was had by all. She and I met during our time at Emory, where I completed a J.D. and she completed a Ph.D. **Brian Ruby '06E** and **Stefan Hildebrandt** were among the groomsmen. **Thomas Rudy, Arijit "Bobby" Ghosh '06E, Ali Daggett '06,** Lizzy Smith '08, Jason Yang '00, **Ben Jacobs, Emma Baratta** and Ryan Abrecea were also in attendance.

"Second, I started a law firm, Kunen Law, in March. I work in intellectual property and business law with a focus on small businesses and mixed martial arts companies. I encourage alums to follow my law blog at kunenlaw.com."

Laura Schnaidt has resumed use of her maiden name, lives in

New York City and would love to hear from classmates. Write her at lauraschnaidt@gmail.com.

I hope everyone has a terrific holiday season. Write to tell us all about it! You can send a note to either of the addresses at the top of the column or submit one using *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

07

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Jimmy Vielkind, who moved back home to the Albany area after graduation, has started a job with the three-year-old news site Capital New York, which was purchased by POLITICO parent Robert Allbritton in September. Jimmy had been covering New York state politics and government for Albany's *Times Union* since 2010, including the administration of Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

He says, "Writing for the paper I grew up reading has been an incredible experience, and I can't begin to count all the things I've learned or the wonderful friends I've found among such terrific colleagues. I'm very excited to be part of a new venture and look forward to new opportunities at Capital; it's also great to be reunited with several old friends from my days at *The New York Observer*. If anybody's ever around the Capitol or Albany, drop a line!"

Tara Erer has been promoted to v.p. of international sales at FilmNation Entertainment. Tara was one of the founding members of the Film Nation team. Her credits include *The King's Speech, Mud, Looper, Lawless, Magic Mike* and *Side Effects*.

Shari (Gross) Lauer '07 Barnard and **Jonathan Lauer** announced the April birth of Ezra Yitzchak Lauer. Ezra has two proud older brothers, Eitan and Abie.

Caryn Epstein shares, "I moved to Baltimore this fall to start a master's program in public health at Johns Hopkins, where I'll be studying patient safety and quality of care. Missing New York tremendously but eating a ton of delicious crab to drown my sorrows."

Philippa Warodell writes, "I married Johan Warodell '09 GS, '12 GSAS in the classroom where we met, Hamilton 313, with three guests and one officiant in June 2012. It was a brief and beautiful ceremony, made memorable by 104-degree heat and the much-appreciated, last-minute assistance of the Alumni Office and Professor Jutta Schmiers-Heller. We followed this with a 'wedding tour' that included small celebrations in New York; Chicago; Park City, Utah; London; and Göteburg, Sweden.

"One year later, we still live happily in Stockholm, where the beyond-beautiful summers make up for the unbelievable winters. After earning an M.Sc. in management from the Stockholm School of Economics last year, I joined the Boston Consulting Group, where I am enjoying the variety of projects and working on my colloquial Swedish."

Alison Desir recently launched a blog and running coach business, Powdered Feet (powderedfeet.com). As a running coach, Alison focuses on the interconnections between fitness and mental health to help individuals find meaning on the run.

John Schneider shares, "It's been a big year for me here in Houston. My wife, Stephanie Pahler '05 Barnard, and I bought a house in May and my daughter, Elizabeth Marie Schneider, was born on June 26. We are all healthy and happy, and now the big debate is whether she will attend the College like me and my father, Robert Schneider '75, or follow in the footsteps of my wife and my mother, Regina Mullahy '75 Barnard."

08

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Elizabeth Smith has some big news to share: "On August 30, my boyfriend of 8½ years, Jason Yang '00, asked me to marry him! He proposed on the roof deck of our building, which overlooks the sparkling lights of Manhattan. (Spoiler: I said yes!)

"In other news, we had a busy summer as proud new parents of two kittens. They are quite a handful but a constant joy!"

Elizabeth and Jason also managed some travel; she writes, "We spent a beautiful July 4 weekend in Breckenridge, Colo., and in August I enjoyed two weeks visiting my family in England and Croatia."

Stephanie Davidson moved back to NYC (Crown Heights) after graduating from Harvard Law and has embarked on a yearlong fellowship as an attorney with the Urban Justice Center's Domestic Violence Project.

Caroline McNamara did a 717-mile road trip through California at the end of August. She started at the wedding of **Meg Lundy** in Napa, then drove to the Mojave to visit Rebecca Kelly '09, and ended in Los Angeles with **Paul Soto** and **Sam Roberts.** She says, "It was a great adventure and I feel lucky for all my Columbia friends who made my trip possible!"



Classmates celebrated the wedding of Rebecca Johnson '10, who married Jeremy Lancaster (not pictured) on September 7 in the Hudson Valley. Left to right: Rebecca Salley '10, Anne Kwei '10E, Christopher Yee '10E, the bride, Courtney Chin '10, Gunnar Aasen '10E, Dayana Azuaje '10 and Hiroki Kimura '10.
PHOTO: SARMA & CO.

Daniella Zalcman '09 and **Joshua Robinson** were married on September 1 at The Loeb Central Park Boathouse. Their bridal party included John Atlas '09, '09E; Angela Radulescu '11; **Jonathan Kamran;** Chelsea Ward '09; and Jonathan Tayler '09.

Keep the updates coming! You can write me at either of the addresses at the top of the column or send a note through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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09

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If you enjoy reading Class Notes to learn what your classmates have been doing during the last few years, then mark your calendar for our five-year reunion! The Class of 2009 will celebrate its first Alumni Reunion Weekend Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. Go to reunion.college.columbia.edu to stay updated on the details; registration opens in the early spring.

Daniella Zalcman and Joshua Robinson '08 were married on September 1. Many of their classmates and friends from Columbia joined them to celebrate; in fact, 83 percent of their bridal party was composed of CC alumni.

Alidad Damooei and Lauren Gentry '10 became engaged this summer. The College was an important part of the day, as Alidad popped the question on the sundial, where the couple sat and chatted for several hours after their first date in fall 2008.

Shana Bush is a jazz and blues vocalist in New York City. In April 2013, she released her first full-length album, *Shoshana Bush & Friends Live at Catalina Jazz Club*, and will celebrate its release with a performance at Birdland jazz club on Thursday, December 12. The album is available on iTunes as well as on shoshanabushmusic.com.

Shana is also excited to share that she opened for jazz vocalist Jane Monheit in a mid-November gig at the Blue Note Jazz Club. To stay informed of Shana's gigs, email her: shoshanabushmusic@gmail.com.

Ernest Herrera recently returned to his hometown of San Antonio, where he has joined the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund as a staff attorney. Ernest will focus on voting rights litigation and workers' rights issues.



On September 28, Abby Oberman '10 married Bryan Finkel at the Essex House in NYC. Left to right, bottom row: Samantha Taube '10 Barnard, Lan Wu '10E, Shira Berenson '08, Rachael McMillan '09, Sara Hershman '10 Barnard and Jeffrey Conn '08; left to right, middle row: Charlotte Moses Fischman '67L, Julie Taylor '10E, Carrie Leone '10 Barnard, Katherine Vucelic '09 Barnard, the bride and Arielle Fox '11; left to right, top row: Emma Brockway '10 Barnard; Nicole Scalamandre '10E, '11 Business; Christine Espinoza '08; Ester Murdukhayeva '09; the groom; father of the bride Michael Oberman '69; Gary Naftalis '67L, '67 SIPA; Arnold Rady '69E; Gershon Locker '69; and Mark Webber '69. Also in attendance but not pictured was Nora Feinstein '11 JTS, '12 Barnard.

PHOTO: FRED MARCUS STUDIO

He enjoys reading about all the awesome pursuits and achievements of his classmates and is happy to share tips with anybody who comes down for South by Southwest (SXSW) or anything else in Texas.

After completing the Exotic Animal Training and Management program at Moorpark College in Southern California, **Quincy Sweeney** continues to work with a variety of exotic animals as a zookeeper at the Reid Park Zoo in Tucson, Ariz. She is excited to train capybaras as well as meet a baby tapir in the upcoming year. While loving life now, the thought of higher education continues to tantalize and all doors remain open.

10

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Thanks for all of your fantastic submissions and keep them coming. Let's get right to the notes!

Isabel Broer writes, "After three years in Denver, I'm back on the East Coast for law school at Harvard. It broke my heart to leave Colorado but I'm already relishing being a student again, instead of a teacher. **Valerie Sapozhnikova** and **Sue Yang** are in Cambridge, too, and I'm looking forward to running into more 2010s."

Valerie must have been on the same wavelength as Isabel, as she submitted her own update saying she's excited about going back to school and beginning her legal education at Harvard Law. She reflects that it's strange to be away from New York for the first time in so many years but says she is looking forward to exploring Cambridge and Boston, as well as meeting up with Columbia alumni in the area.

Giselle Obregon also started school this fall, beginning the M.P.H. program in the international health department at the Boston University School of Public Health. She writes, "Boston is a great place to be not only as a person interested in healthcare, but also because I've already run into a number of Columbia alumni! A fellow CC '10 happens to be my next door neighbor. I plan to go abroad next summer and am searching for healthcare jobs or research internships in Latin America and/or Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa. If anyone has recommendations (or is ever in Boston and would like to meet up), please email me: gmo2102@caa.columbia.edu."

DanielIe Ash became engaged to Alex Yampolsky on September 3. He is a pharmacist who owns Medicine Man Pharmacy at 511 Washington St. in Hoboken, N.J. She graduated magna cum laude from New York Law School in May and is a first-year associate in the real estate department at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison as of September.

On September 7, **Rebecca Johnson** married Jeremy Lancaster in an outdoor ceremony in the beautiful Hudson Valley. Columbians in attendance included bridesmaid **Courtney Chin, Gunnar Aasen '10E, Dayana Azuaje, Hiroki Kimura, Anne Kwei '10E, Rebecca Salley** and **Chris Yee '10E.** The group participated in a lively chanting of the Columbia fight song and danced the night away!

Emory Dabney married Jay Dolan '08 Middlebury in Richmond, Va., on June 8. They met at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech. Jay is an associate veterinarian at Bold Springs Veterinary Service in Pearisburg, Va., while Emory is finishing her D.V.M. They reside in Blacksburg, Va., with their ever-growing menagerie, which currently includes their terrier mix, Benny; cat, Phineas; and crested geckos, ShakaSmart and Mooney.

Nora Nicholson Calhoun (née Weber) writes, "My husband, Alexander Calhoun '11, and I had a daughter on August 5. Frances Rose Nicholson Calhoun weighed 10 lbs. even and was 22 inches long, born at home with the help of a midwife, my mother, my sister and **Genevieve Deleon.** We are totally besotted and thank God for His goodness toward us. We live in the Columbia neighborhood and she was baptized on September 8 at Corpus Christi Church on West 121st Street."

Ian Spafford is an actuary at The Travelers Indemnity Co.

Congratulations to **Susanna Wolff,** who was named editor-in-chief of CollegeHumor.com in September. She started her career at CollegeHumor.com in 2007, through an internship held while at Columbia.

And finally, the latest musings from **Chris Yim**: "SF > NY. It's certainly not as attractive of a city, and the glamour isn't there like it is in NYC. However, if you like the outdoors, spending less money, living healthier and having more work-life balance, then SF may suit you better. This is all part of my campaign to get great people out to California and near me.

"As of September 8, I will have been in San Francisco for six months, and I have to say that I'm in a good place. I work and live with my best friends, and we are engaged in a mission that I care about. My days are filled with unique challenges that have me going back and forth among an early-stage business, a long-distance relationship, managing work/friend relationships (they've become one and the same) and establishing a life for myself. All in all, I am content in the challenge. Every man must hunt his kill to feed himself and his family.

"I haven't mentioned so much with regards to [my son] Jackson and that's because I've handed him off to my folks. We've decided that until I hit the jackpot, it'll be best if he can be in a place with more stability and have attentive adults around him. I know that he'll be well-fed, loved and nurtured in their home in Virginia. Virginia, after all, is for lovers.

"Lastly, here's my shameless plug. If you'd like to support our mission of connecting the minds and resources of teachers and students around the world to ensure all students have access to high-quality education, then please contact me at chris@uclass.org. A few CC alums



Lions celebrated the September 7 marriage of Katie Goble and Derek Turner '12 in Phoenix. Left to right, behind the bride and groom: Ashley Byrd '02, Linda Boama-Wiafe '12, Frannie Laughner '12 Barnard, Nathan Chang '10, Barry Weinberg '12, Todd Nelson '12, Adam Kuerbitz '12, Jordan Hollarsmith '12, Amirah Sequeira '12, Leah Greenbaum '12, Jason Han '12, Sy Hoekstra '10, Toukam Ngoufanke '09E and Emile Barraza '13E.

are involved in our growing company, including Justin Leung '09 and **Daniel Kanak;** thanks to them for their contributions."

11

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
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The only news to report, sadly, is that **Colin Sullivan** has stepped down from his duties as class correspondent. *CCT* thanks him for his time at the helm of the column, a position he has held since graduation, and appreciates all that he has done to keep classmates connected to one another and to the College.

A new correspondent is needed, and *CCT* welcomes all who would like to apply. If you are interested, please contact Alexis Tonti '11 Arts, managing editor, at alt2129@columbia.edu or 212-851-7485 for more information. The column publishes quarterly and is a great way to keep in touch with classmates and to give back to Columbia.

12

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From producing a Britney Spears musical to working with the Yankees, the Class of 2012 remains as busy (and awesome) as always. I encourage everyone to continue sharing updates! Send to my email address, above, or through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Adam Behnke is working his dream job with the New York Yankees. As a sales associate, he customizes ticket plans and corporate events for fans and companies. He helped several Columbia groups this past summer and fall and writes that "they had an absolute blast!" He is working with the Columbia College Young Alumni Board of Directors to organize a group event for next year and looks forward to helping as many Columbians as possible get to the stadium for a fun night.

Patrick Blute has joined forces with **Cori Capik,** Sara Miller '13 Barnard and Max Druz '15 to produce the musical *Spears: The Gospel According to Britney,* which held a funder's preview on November 7 at the Snapple Theater in Midtown. For more information, visit spearsthemusical.com.

Paul Hsiao kicked off an awesome summer by attending a high school reunion with **Chris Cheung, Lisa Lian, Brian Watson '12E** and **Sarah Gordon '12E.** He also spent time in New York with **Sonal Bothra, Alex Harstrick, Sarah Ngu** and **Chuck Roberts,** "going to back-to-back musicals on the weekdays and exploring Brooklyn one hipster bar at a time."

In early September, **Yin Yin Lu** launched the Lexicography Society's YouTube channel (youtube.com/user/LexicographySociety) as well as its inaugural video series, "What's Your Word?" Yin writes, "From its conception, the series has been almost one year in the making. Filming officially began in December, and the latest round was in September, with many months of editing in between!

"The premise of the series is simple. Each video features one person speaking about one word. The word has to resonate in either a positive or negative way; it has to arouse intense emotion. There is no prescribed structure or style, and the word can be from any language.

"Moreover, each video is as much about the speaker as it is about the word. How they speak is as remarkable/revealing as what they say. The videos are miniature portraits of selves, in a direct sense."

Yin will continue filming in the United Kingdom, as she has decided to return to Oxford to pursue a master's in English language. If you are interested in participating in the video series, send a message to lexisoc@gmail.com.

Michael Mazzullo has returned to his high school, Fordham Prep in the Bronx, to teach history and to coach soccer.

After spending the summer organizing the hackNY summer Fellows program, **Aditya Mukerjee** returned to school this fall in the inaugural class of Cornell Tech, a new graduate school in NYC. While studying for a master's in computer science, Aditya will

work with engineers at Google to extend the open-source IPython project to help instructors create interactive online textbooks for use in teaching computer science and statistics.

Joseph Rozenshtein '13 SIPA spent this past summer in Northern Virginia training for his first assignment as a foreign service officer with the State Department. He left for Kyiv, Ukraine, in late September and is looking forward to new adventures. He writes that no matter where his job takes him, "the city" will only ever mean New York!

David Spencer Seconi sent in an update from Bogota, where he has lived since two weeks after graduation: "Dissatisfied with the senior job recruitment process, with a sub-intermediate level of Spanish and not a single drop of Latino blood in my body, I packed most of my things into two suitcases and flew rather blindly to Bogota. To put a roof over my head and food on my plate I took a job at a local hostel, which I discovered upon arrival was actually the night shift as the entire building's security guard, letting cars and people into the building 9 p.m.–3 a.m.

"Struck with the existential burnings of jumping from an Ivy League education into international security services, I didn't last long in my role and was quickly forced to find new lodging. What followed was the adventure of a lifetime, in which I taught English, was accepted into the country's most well-known university for a master's and worked for a subsidiary of the *Financial Times*. Now I am with an investment bank for a Colombian brokerage firm (and the only foreigner in the firm). I came to Colombia with little knowledge of where I was going or what I wanted to do, but I learned how the honesty, hard work, cultural sensitivity and constant goal-setting that Columbia taught me could carry me to success in the farthest reaches of the globe."

Last but not least, **Derek Turner** and Katie Goble were married on September 7 in a beautiful ceremony in Phoenix. Many Lions surrounded them on their special day. Congratulations!

Stuart Cohen '13 began his education with the Class of 1981 and completed his degree this year as a proud member of the Class of 2013.

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Tala Akhavan
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I hope this column finds our class well and engaged in exciting endeavors! Whether you are embarking on a new job, living an artistic dream or continuing studies at graduate school, I hope everyone is enjoying their first brush with post-college reality. Here is what a few of our classmates are up to:

Michelle Abramowitz and **Eric Feder** were married on June 9 at Temple Beth El in Cedarhurst, N.Y. Celebrating with them were many Class of '13 friends such as **Jason Levine**, Etan Zapinsky '14E and **Michael Rubin**. Michelle and Eric were both involved in the Columbia/Barnard Hillel, and met there during their NSOP week. One challenging "Calculus III" course, countless group projects and four years of college later, they got married. They now live in Washington Heights. Eric is pursuing his interest in mathematics as a professional data scientist while Michelle is performing clinical research in a psychology lab, hoping to pursue a Ph.D. in clinical psychology.

Soon after graduation, **John Kenney** began an internship at Pivot TV, where he worked on *Raising McCain*, a new documentary-talk show centered on political celebrity Meghan McCain '07. After finishing the internship he spent the remainder of his summer at home with family in North Dakota and Minnesota, then moved back to the Northeast. In fact, he is back on Columbia's campus as a first-year at the Law School. John is currently buried in introductory course material — essentially the Core of law school — and he hopes to narrow his focus to the intersection of law and sports.

Good luck, John!

Mila Rusafova is also beginning a law career and will start at Chicago Law in fall 2014. Between now and then (she took a year's deferral), she is a legal assistant to Harvey Fishbein, a solo criminal trial defense lawyer in downtown Manhattan. Mila has assisted him since her senior year at Columbia and has been exposed to a number of pivotal cases, the biggest of which is currently *People v. Pedro Hernandez*, regarding the highly publicized Etan Patz disappearance in 1979. She has assisted in court and at trial for some cases, and hopes to apply these experiences to her course material as a law student. She looks forward to a year of "making it on [her] own in New York City," as she puts it, and hopes to spend next summer traveling and resting before the school year commences.

Nathan Ratapu has begun his post-college career as a programming analyst at Syfy in New York City. He helps put together the TV network's air schedule and scouts for international programming. He looks forward to continuing his learning experience at the network and to pursuing a career in the entertainment industry.

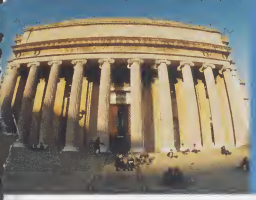
Congratulations go to **Stuart Cohen**, who began his education at Columbia with the Class of 1981 and completed his degree this year as a proud member of our Class of 2013. In his words, "I was supposed to graduate in 1981 but failed physical education. After 32 years I decided it was time, so I got my credit and I am now a real graduate. No more living a lie!"

Now based in Juneau, Alaska, Stuart is a proud father of two and a successful author. Since graduating, he received news that his fourth novel, tentatively called *This Is How It Really Sounds!*, will be published. Some words of wisdom from Stuart to our class: "I read virtually none of the Core Curriculum when I was in school but I have read just about all of the books now, in their entirety. I guarantee you they read much better 30 years later, and are much more profound. I especially like Plutarch, who identified concentration of wealth as a threat to society long ago, and Cervantes, who is so profound about the separate worlds we all live in. So, keep re-reading: you're just getting started."

A final note: This December marks our seventh month in "the real world" — may our fresh memories of college life provide an impetus to give back and donate to the Columbia College Fund. You can give by credit card at college.columbia.edu/giveonline or by calling the Alumni Office at 212-851-7488, or mail a check, payable to Columbia College Fund, to Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025.

Answers to Quiz on Inside Back Cover

1. Sixteen percent of the College Class of 2017 comes from outside the United States and represents 47 countries.
2. In March 2009, Columbia opened its first Global Centers in Beijing, China, and Amman, Jordan.
3. In January 2013, Columbia opened its eighth Global Center in Nairobi, Kenya.
4. Nevis, British West Indies.
5. Sixty-four students held Columbia Experience Overseas summer internships in 2013 in eight cities.
6. France, to study at Reid Hall.
7. 1964.
8. Estonia.
9. Twelve Columbians currently are overseas on Fulbrights: John Bailey '12 (Spain), Janine Balekdjian '13 (Ukraine), Caitlin Brown '13 (Andorra), Kyle Bukhari '13 GS (United Kingdom), Serena Dasani '13 (Indonesia), Scout Katovich '11 (France), Krizia Lopez '13 (Nicaragua), Aaron Primero '13 (Philippines), Katharina Shaw '13 (Germany), Elizabeth Shen '11 (Philippines), Lewis West '13 (India) and James Wiseman '13 (Czech Republic).
10. Spanish, with 532 students enrolled in classes in 2013–14.



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Letters

(Continued from page 6)

Alumni Association, then headed by Frank Hogan ['24, '28L].

One of my first jobs was to play a role in organizing the dinner, to be held in the Waldorf-Astoria. It turned out to be a tough assignment for me and the alumni dinner committee. The honoree was V.K. Wellington Koo (Class of 1909), China's ambassador to the United States. The feeling about China and Chiang Kai-shek was bitterly pro and con at that time and to get 450 people to come to that dinner was a Herculean task.

Thomas Dewey ['25L] was the principal speaker. I never saw anyone more confident or sure of himself. Certainly the majority attending the dinner that evening thought he had already won the Presidential election. Harry Truman soon thereafter upset that prognostication.

As I recall, the next Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner was a much easier sell, with the recipient being "Wild Bill" Donovan [(Class of 1905)], who headed the Office of Strategic Services (a precursor to the Central Intelligence Agency) during WWII.

John C. Thomas Jr. '48
New York City

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Alumni Corner

(Continued from page 96)

I've sometimes said I'm from an Italian family, was born in New York and live in France, all of which is true, and ask them to decide what I am. Occasionally I have doubts myself. After 20 years abroad, some things in America seem very foreign (automatic transmission, air conditioning in homes, the government shutdown), but I don't feel French. My 9-year-old daughter is more confused. It helps having a wife who picks up languages quickly.

Journalism has certainly become more international since I started, when my co-workers were almost exclusively Yanks, Brits and Aussies. Now I have plenty of Lebanese, Italian, Russian or Korean colleagues who could do my job just as well, and might even have the same Columbia degree.

Technology has obviously changed as well. My first job was on an IBM typewriter. In London in the late '80s, I'd often hang out for the lunch after press conferences before ambling back to the office to write the story. Sadly, thanks to cost cuts, there are fewer free lunches now. It's a shame, because these days I've generally banged out the story from my laptop during the press conference and would be free to stick around sans guilt. Younger reporters for some publications just tweet from press conferences.

It's amazing how many young people still want to work in what's reputed to be a dying profession, and aspiring reporters frequently ask for advice. I haven't a clue what the business model is going to be. But what's clear is that reporters have to work fast, and across multiple platforms: print, video, graphics, podcasts, blogs, radio or whatever other media the folks at Apple and elsewhere come up with. There will always be a demand for content. Let the business owners figure out how to make money out of it.

ALUMNI CORNER

An American Journalist in Paris

BY GREGORY VISCUSI '85, '91 SIPA

Although upon arriving at Columbia College I became an instant believer in the importance of the Core Curriculum, I just as quickly decided I didn't like Plato. I also didn't have the gall to begin my freshman year arguing with my professor that the founder of Western philosophy was pompous and pretentious. That was probably a good call for my future at Columbia but also a good lesson for my career.

In 25 years of journalism I've met some unsavory types, from Islamic radicals in Lebanon to creepy U.S. civilians running Iraq to deceitful corporate PR spinners to National Front politicians in France. But they've all had at least some valid point to make, and I've always told their side of the story. After, of course, double checking everything they say and seeking out opposing points of view. A reporter's job is to expose and explain, not to preach or mock.

Maybe it was growing up partly as an expat in France, in a family where we discussed politics from an early age, or our extensive travels in Europe and Africa where my father worked, but I knew since high school in the States that I wanted to be an overseas-based journalist. At Columbia, professors dismissed many of my papers and exams for their "journalistic writing style;" I was never so satisfied with the resulting mediocre grades.

I joined WKCR's news department as soon as I arrived at Columbia and continued to file reports from my 1983–84 junior year abroad at the University of Edinburgh. Those were heady years in the United Kingdom, with the miners' strike, the invasion of Grenada and protest against the installation of U.S. Pershing missiles. After graduation, I presumed my career would involve covering those same issues of war and peace. It was a shock to discover every newspaper job on offer required a car. I was a city boy and didn't even have a driver's license. I don't know how I was so clueless but it probably didn't make much difference. Newspapers were already cutting back in 1985 and the jobs were in business news.

A year after joining Dow Jones in downtown Manhattan, I was sent to London to cover currency markets and banking. After two years there and then some personal travel in South America, I came back to New York for a degree at SIPA. A year at *Forbes* magazine followed before joining in 1992 what was at the time a start-up called Bloomberg News. I was hired to open its Milan office, becoming Bloomberg's fifth reporter on the continent. Now there are about 600 in Europe. We were about half that when I moved to the Paris bureau in 1997. Sometimes I miss those early chaotic days when we were starting a news service from scratch but the hours were insane, and obviously we weren't the influential media company we are now, even if along with size inevitably comes a certain bureaucracy and anonymity.

I have no regrets about a career in business journalism. When you come down to it, all stories are economic. Bloomberg takes a wide view, covering almost any subject where money is involved. There are plenty of days working the phone from the office or sitting through interminable press conferences. But over the years, I've also reported from looted oil fields in Iraq, from the Vatican about its finances, from Olympic Games on their sponsors and from a Greek frigate searching for pirates in the Indian Ocean. I've visited a fair share of Italian and French cheesemakers. I've accompanied French presidents to African countries as they drum up business and to numerous European capitals for all-night negotiations to save the euro. Nicolas Sarkozy was exhausting and exciting to cover, full of energy and an initiative a day. He could also boycott us for weeks if he didn't like our questions. François Hollande is patience defined, never losing his cool and always pleasant with the press. But unlike Sarkozy, he refuses to play the game of "feeding the beast," and sometimes the Elysée press corps returns from his overseas trips without a story to tell.



Bloomberg News reporter Gregory Viscusi '85, '91 SIPA in front of the Elysée, "the French White House," in October.

While I'm often the only non-French reporter on these trips, I've never felt any hostility. And that's been true of living in Europe generally, even at the height of French bashing in the U.S. during the first Iraq war. Even in the Middle East, I've never hidden that I'm American, although to soften the blow

(Continued on page 95)

A Global Columbia Quiz

In keeping with the issue's theme, this quiz also has a global bent. Try your hand at these questions (answers on page 94):

1.
What percentage of the Class of 2017 comes from outside the United States, and how many countries are represented?

2.
When and where were the first two Columbia Global Centers opened?

3.
When and where was the most recent Columbia Global Center opened?

4.
In what country was Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778) born?

5.
How many students held internships in Summer 2013 through the Center for Career Education's Columbia Experience Overseas program, and in how many cities?

6.
To what country does Columbia's largest contingent of study-abroad students go?

7.
When did Columbia begin offering undergraduate programs at Reid Hall in Paris?

8.
Toomas Hendrik Ilves '76 is the president of what country?

9.
How many Columbians are studying overseas on Fulbright grants this year?

10.
What language (in addition to English) is most popular to study at Columbia?

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College Walk on a wintry day, from *Columbia University in Pictures* by Lenny Pridatko.
PHOTO: LENNY PRIDATKO

Columbia College TODAY

Spring 2014



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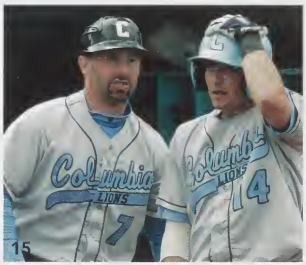
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ABOVE: CAST MEMBERS PERFORM DURING 1980'S *FLY WITH ME*.
PHOTO: PETER KRUPENYE PHOTOGRAPHY/COURTESY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES



Coach Brett Boretti (left)



Susanna Daniel '97



Jenji Kohan '91 (right)

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View photos from the Dean's Scholarship Reception

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Building the Best Undergraduate Experience

We recently marked the end of The Columbia Campaign, a University-wide fundraising and alumni relations effort that raised more than $6.1 billion, including $980 million for undergraduate education. We raised $401 million for College financial aid, $25.5 million for student advising and $134.4 million for the Columbia College Fund, which supports the Core Curriculum, summer internship stipends, financial aid and student services. We also endowed 43 new professorships for faculty in the Arts and Sciences. And we did it with the help of you — the generous alumni, parents, students and friends of Columbia College.

Throughout the campaign, many of you gave time, energy and financial contributions to Columbia. You reconnected with your classmates, with your Columbia experiences and with the institution, and helped propel the University forward. You were leaders in The Columbia Campaign, and I thank you for helping make us the greatest college in the greatest university in the greatest city in the world. I especially thank the Undergraduate Campaign Council and all the other College fundraising volunteers who gave their time and resources to help us reach our goals.



PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

The momentum we have built from this campaign will enable us to focus on key priorities that will enhance Columbia College. We must continue to strengthen the College, build the greatest undergraduate experience for our students and faculty, and provide for the next generation of Columbians. We need to sustain the Core, which unites Columbia College students and alumni; we need to support our students, who are at the core of the College — through financial aid, summer internships, study abroad, research and fellowship opportunities, and other programs and services — and we need to support the faculty who teach our students, who are world-class researchers, outstanding teachers and thought-leaders in their fields. We need to be the best Columbia we can be so we can continue to attract the best students, regardless of their families' abilities to pay, and ensure a diverse community where students can learn as much from one another as they do from our faculty. Sustaining the College's success will take a lot of work, and your participation is essential. I hope you will remain engaged, continue to connect with the College and take advantage of programs and opportunities that we offer.

In this issue, you'll read about some of the remarkable Columbians who have achieved success in the performing arts, and some of the unique Columbia traditions that have influenced them on their path to greatness — in particular the Varsity Show, but also groups like Columbia University Players, King's Crown Shakespeare Troupe and Columbia Musical Theatre Society, to name a few. Columbia College students interested in theater and film can take advantage of the School of the Arts and courses in Barnard's Department of Theatre.

Columbia University's resources — including our world-renowned faculty, 16 graduate and professional schools, hundreds of extracurricular opportunities, and many institutes and centers across campus and around the globe — are among the many things that make Columbia College special, and this is especially true for students interested in theater and the performing arts. These opportunities are enhanced by the University's location in the greatest city in the world, where students can take advantage of countless arts internships, world-class performances and unique cultural opportunities. Our Columbia Arts Experience internship program, for example, provides select students with a New York-based internship in the arts and connects them with special events and educational programming designed to help them explore career possibilities. Our NYC Performing Arts Alternative Spring Break program gives students with a passion for performing arts the chance to attend theater, music and dance performances; participate in workshops on topics such as audience development and careers in arts administration; and reflect on their own work and the performing arts community on campus during spring break.

Performing arts is just one example of the many professions that College students embark on, and one of the many passions that we support through our programs and opportunities. But none of these programs would be possible without the support and guidance of former students, parents of students, and friends of the College. So I thank you, once again, for all that you have done during The Columbia Campaign and all that you continue to do for the College. Your commitment to Columbia is extraordinary, and I look forward to working together to sustain the College, build programs and opportunities, and support the next generation of Columbians.

James J. Valentini

Columbia College TODAY

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Letters to the Editor

A Football Alternative

So the Lions were winless again this year—more evidence that building a viable football program at Columbia is unlikely. The banging-head-on-wall metaphor seems to describe this entire subject and leads to my suggestion: Just stop it. Give up football. We don't need an Eric Kandel to explain that this game can, and too often does, cause permanent brain injury. It is time Columbia made a statement about this by dropping the sport altogether or replacing it with a touch or flag version. Encourage the rest of the Ivies to do the same.

I know, I know. "The alums would never stand for it! What about the University's investment in facilities?" And so on. No doubt such a change would be difficult. But it's time. Columbia should lead the way.

Jeff Fereday '72
BOISE, IDAHO

[*Editor's note: The writer played lightweight football for Columbia in 1969.*]

Seeking Change

A group of alumni that includes former athletes and non-athletes, Columbia Athletics Hall of Fame members, major contributors and a former University trustee has formed the Committee for Athletic Excellence at Columbia (CAEC) to seek change. The immediate spark for this was the past football season but the fuel consists of a long history of sub-par athletic accomplishment.

Since the creation of the Ivy League in 1956, Columbia owns the significantly worst team record of any member school. We have won 89 team championships out of a possible 1,755. Brown is the second worst with 119 titles, 33 percent more than us. This institutional futility comes despite a large athletics budget that might be justified in terms of student development, morale, spirit and alumni contributions but only if Columbia fielded credible teams. With rare exception, we do not. Our historic average of 1.6 titles per year has not changed during the past five years, so there has not been any recent improvement, either.

CAEC suggests that the administration concede this history is unacceptable and represents a black eye for the University. Additionally, acceptable fitness facilities for athletes and non-athletes alike are sadly lacking on campus, notwithstanding tremendous expenditures for facilities five miles away.

We request that CU commission a study to analyze the historic failure of CU athletics and make recommendations on how to achieve competitive respectability. We don't point to specific issues or individuals; we simply want to have a competent third-party analysis. We believe that Columbia's students, faculty and alumni all deserve these answers. At the same time, we also insist on the University formulating and executing an acceptable plan to provide state-of-the-art campus fitness facilities for the entire Columbia community, athletes and non-athletes.

We welcome all to join CAEC (liongsports.org) and to support these proposals.

Richard Forzani '66
GARFIELD, N.J.

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All the Columbia World's a Stage

I never got to see a Varsity Show when I was a student. My freshman year was 1967–68, and the Varsity Show was one of many things at Columbia — just about everything, actually — that fell victim to that spring's demonstrations. After buildings were occupied beginning on April 23, 1968, and especially after the police bust in the early hours of April 30, what passed for normal activities on campus came to a screeching halt.

Classes were canceled, although some faculty chose to continue meeting with their students either outdoors on campus or in faculty apartments. There were plans for a 1968 Varsity Show based on Erskine Caldwell's *Tobacco Road* but it was never staged. And it would not be until 1978 that the Varsity Show was revived with *The Great Columbia Riot of '78*.



PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

The first Varsity Show I saw was in 2001, a few years after I began editing this magazine. *Sex, Lions, and Videotape* also happened to be the first Varsity Show to be staged in Roone Arledge Auditorium of the newly opened Alfred Lerner Hall. I've attended several since then, and hope to be in the audience when this year's edition takes place Friday, May 2–Sunday, May 4.

The Varsity Show is not Columbia's only student theatrical production — far from it. As you'll learn in the roundup that appears in this issue, there are many other groups that stage performances during the school year. But the Varsity Show, which was first staged in 1894, is Columbia's oldest performing arts tradition and, arguably, one of Columbia's oldest traditions of any kind.

Now, as Thomas Vinciguerra '85, '86J, '90 GSAS points out in the essay that introduces this issue's theme (see page 18), many of our peers have their own versions of the Varsity Show — an annual musical comedy, created by students, that satirizes life at their school. So what's so special about our Varsity Show?

For one, its alumni. Some of the most prominent names in Broadway history cut their theatrical teeth on the Varsity Show. Composer Richard Rodgers '23 ranks as one of the creators of the modern Broadway musical, yet before he collaborated on shows like *South Pacific* and *The Sound of Music* with Oscar Hammerstein II (Class of 1916) and on *Babes in Arms* and *Pal Joey* with Lorenz Hart (Class of 1918J), he worked with them on the Varsity Show. Ed Kleban '59, lyricist for *A Chorus Line*, and Terrence McNally '60, who won Tony Awards in consecutive years for writing *Love! Valour! Compassion!* and *Master Class*, worked together on the Varsity Show. More recently, Tom Kitt '96 and Brian Yorkey '93, the duo who won Tony and Pulitzer awards for *Next to Normal* and created this spring's *If/Then*, met and had their first collaboration on the Varsity Show.

The success of Varsity Show alumni extends beyond the stage — way beyond. Herman Mankiewicz (Class of 1917), who with Orson Welles wrote *Citizen Kane*, and Herman Wouk '34, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Caine Mutiny* and many other novels, are Varsity Show alumni. I.A.L. Diamond '41, Billy Wilder's co-author on *The Apartment* and *The Fortune Cookie*, wrote four Varsity Shows, the only person ever to do so. When the MGM movie studio needed a logo, publicist and Varsity Show alumnus Howard Dietz (Class of 1917J) thought of the Columbia mascot and came up with the iconic roaring lion. Cultural historian Jacques Barzun '27, '32 GSAS and Pro Football Hall of Fame quarterback Sid Luckman '39 were Varsity Show alumni, as are singer Jon "Bowzer" Bauman '68 of Sha Na Na and comedian Kate McKinnon '06 of *Saturday Night Live*.

But a roster of famous alumni is not enough. What makes the Varsity Show an enduring treat for Columbians is the creativity and dedication of the students who gather each fall to begin the process of producing the latest edition and spend countless hours crafting it into the production that is seen during performance weekend.

Naturally, some Varsity Shows are better than others. The writing may be better in some years than others; same for the music and the acting and the staging. Despite the best efforts of the Admissions Office, not every class contains a writer like Diamond, a composer like Rodgers or a lyricist like Hammerstein. And sometimes even the best talent produces a show that falls short of the mark. Will this be one of those years when it all comes together? At least today's students will have a chance to find out for themselves.

We hope you enjoy our look behind the scenes at preparations for this year's Varsity Show, at the visual history of this longstanding tradition, the conversation with Varsity Show alumni Kitt and Yorkey, and the snapshots of the many other talented theatrical groups on campus. And we urge you, whether you happen to be on Morningside Heights or are planning a visit, to check out one of their productions.

Alex Sachare

AROUND THE QUADS

Alumni Reunion Weekend and Dean's Day 2014

By Lisa Palladino



Catching up with friends on the Low Steps — just like the old days — is one of many things Alumni Reunion Weekend attendees can enjoy while back on campus.
PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

Fourteen classes will gather Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1, for Alumni Reunion Weekend. The celebration is a chance for alumni to connect with old friends and make new ones, and to rediscover the campus and the city where they created memorable and meaningful moments. Celebrating this year are alumni from classes ending in 4 and 9, from 1944–2009.

Highlights of the weekend will include

- class-specific gatherings planned by each class' Reunion Committee;
- cultural outings such as the New York Philharmonic, American Ballet Theatre, Broadway theater and an art gallery crawl;
- intellectual classes featuring Mini-Core Courses given by Columbia faculty members;
- the Dean's Day keynote lecture with Eric Foner '63, '69 GSAS, the DeWitt Clinton Professor of History;
- affinity receptions for members of *Columbia Daily Spectator*, varsity athletics, veterans and alumni on active duty, and student leadership;
- Camp Columbia for Kids, an all-day Saturday program for Lion cubs ages 3–12; and
- the all-class Wine Tasting and Starlight Reception with dancing on Low Plaza.

"Reunion and Dean's Day are opportunities for generations of alumni to return to campus, see classmates and friends, and renew connections with the College," says Dean James J. Valentini. "I

look forward to celebrating with former students who graduated in years ending in 4 and 9 throughout the weekend and invite other alumni, along with parents and friends, to join me on Dean's Day for thought-provoking lectures on topics ranging from science to art to literature and to engage with the Core Curriculum, the common intellectual experience that connects all current and former Columbia College students."

Alumni who attended Reunion 2013 noted how wonderful it was to be back on campus with classmates.

"My 60th reunion was a remarkable experience. I reconnected with old as well as long-term friends. The Mini-Core was a step back into heaven," said Bill Frosch '53, voicing the sentiments of many attendees.

And for those who helped to plan their class' reunion, seeing their work come to fruition was especially rewarding: "Reunion was a wonderful experience both for me and my classmates who returned to campus, some for the first time since graduation," said Rachel Mintz '93. "From the cocktail parties to the Dean's Day talks to the barbecue to the class dinner to dancing under the stars on Saturday night, Alumni Reunion Weekend allowed me to catch up with old friends and meet new ones. It was excellent, and I am so glad to have been a part of both planning and participating in it."

Thursday, May 30–Sunday, June 2
reunion.college.columbia.edu
college.columbia.edu/deansday
ccalumni@columbia.edu
212-851-7488

If this is your reunion year, watch for Alumni Reunion Weekend materials by mail and email, go to the reunion website to register for reunion and Dean's Day events and to get event details (reunion.college.columbia.edu) or refer to the box at the top of your Class Notes column in this issue for staff contact information. Dean's Day is open to alumni of all class years but if it is not your reunion year, you need to register on the Dean's Day website (college.columbia.edu/deansday) or by calling the Alumni Office (212-851-7488). Deans' Day information, with lecture and registration details, will be sent to those in non-reunion years.

For an idea of what to expect from reunion and Dean's Day, check out the "2013 Reunion Highlights" on the reunion website.

L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti '92 Joins Dean James J. Valentini in Conversation



Dean James J. Valentini joined about 200 College alumni, parents, students and friends in Beverly Hills on January 15 for an evening with Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti '92, '93 SIPA (above, left). Held at the Beverly Hills home of David Javdan '90, the evening featured time to mingle with guests and with Garcetti as well as a discussion between Garcetti and Valentini. The mayor spoke about his time at Columbia; the Core Curriculum; the two organizations he helped to found, the Harlem Restoration Project and Columbia Urban Experience; and what he thinks about now as mayor. See more event photos at facebook.com/alumnicc/photos_albums.



Columbia Campaign Raises More Than $6.1 Billion

The Columbia Campaign, the nine-year, University-wide fundraising and alumni-relations effort that concluded on December 31, raised more than $6.1 billion. This total is the largest sum raised by a single campaign in Ivy League history and the second largest ever raised by any university.

Generous alumni, parents and friends of Columbia gave $980 million to the Campaign for Undergraduate Education, and more than $1 billion for student financial aid across Columbia's schools, including $401 million for Columbia College students. Donors also gave $25.5 million for advising at the College and Engineering through The Austin E. Quigley Endowment for Student Success, nearly $4 million for internships and nearly $1.5 million for undergraduate research programs. Donors endowed 43 new professorships for faculty in the Arts and Sciences departments that teach Columbia College students and 222 additional professorships around the University; gave $100 million to Columbia Athletics; and gave close to $1 billion in capital funding for projects including Hamilton Hall, the Northwest Corner Building for interdisciplinary science on the Morningside campus, the Campbell Sports Center at Baker Athletics Complex and the first buildings on the new Manhattanville campus.

"Even the bare statistics underlying the Campaign total are amazing and should give us heart for Columbia's future," President Lee C. Bollinger noted in a message to the Columbia community. "This vast personal engagement with the institution and commitment of resources is nothing less than extraordinary, and, so too, is the institution's renewed capacity for Columbia to help society overcome the fateful challenges in the century ahead." Bollinger also noted that the campaign record would likely be broken by another Columbia campaign, adding, "We will not for a moment pause in the effort to supplement the University's financial foundation, which is the eternal spring that feeds the creativity of our extraordinary students and unmatched faculty."

Dean James J. Valentini affirmed Bollinger's message, saying the campaign was an outstanding success and set the stage for a stronger Columbia. "Our challenge now is to find ways to build upon the remarkable success of the Columbia Campaign and translate that into programs and initiatives that directly impact Columbia College students so that we can continue to create the greatest college in the greatest university in the greatest city in the world," he said.

Schiller To Chair Board of Trustees

Jonathan D. Schiller '69, '73L, a prominent attorney and the recipient of the 2012 Alexander Hamilton Award, the College's highest honor, has been elected co-chair of the University's Board of Trustees alongside current chair William V. Campbell '62, '64 TC. Schiller will succeed Campbell as chairman upon the latter's retirement from the board.

Schiller, who played on Columbia's 1968 Ivy League champion basketball team, is a co-founder and managing partner of the law firm Boies, Schiller & Flexner. His practice concentrates on complex litigation and international arbitration, and he has successfully tried cases before juries and judges in federal and state courts throughout the United States and before arbitral tribunals in Europe and Asia as well as the United States. He has been honored frequently for his professional service and success and is a fellow of the American Bar Association.

"The University is extremely fortunate to have a person of Jonathan's talent and character to take on this leadership role on our board," said Campbell, who has served on the board since 2003 and was elected chair in 2005. "Our board and the University will benefit from Jonathan's expanded role, and I am looking forward to collaborating with him to build on the substantial progress of recent years."



Jonathan D. Schiller '69, '73L

"I'm honored to take on this responsibility at an institution that has meant so much to me and my family," said Schiller, whose three sons are all Columbia alumni. "Under Bill Campbell's extraordinary chairmanship, the board has become a vibrant community of ideas, hard work and shared commitment to Columbia. I know that in order to maintain Columbia's impressive momentum, we cannot pause in our collective efforts to help this great University prepare for the future. I am looking forward to fulfilling this role with the same inclusive, affirmative spirit that Bill has brought to the board and the Columbia community."

"Jonathan Schiller is deeply dedicated to Columbia and brings both great personal insight about the institution and admired professional experience to this important new role," said President Lee C. Bollinger. "It is especially fitting that at this moment when our University is embracing the opportunities of the 21st century, Jonathan eloquently speaks of the enduring importance of his study of our classic Core Curriculum. He is highly familiar with the initiatives that are essential to Columbia's future, both here in New York and around the globe, and we look forward to benefitting from his leadership together with Bill Campbell who, in his distinguished service on this board over the past decade, has been an extraordinary resource to this University and a close friend to me personally."

Joseph Ayala '94 Heads Double Discovery Center

Joseph Ayala '94 is the new executive director of the College's Double Discovery Center, which works to enhance higher education opportunities for local low-income and first-generation youth and adults aged 12–27. DDC's academic enrichment program, which serves approximately 1,000 students annually and has become a model for similar programs throughout the United States, focuses on ensuring high school graduation, college enrollment and completion, and responsible adulthood.

"We are excited to welcome Joe Ayala, a Columbia College graduate and nonprofit leader, as the new executive director of Double Discovery Center," says James J. Valentini, dean of Columbia College and v.p. for undergraduate education. "Joe's experience in youth development and advocacy, as well as his passion for helping the youth of our community, will be an asset to the organization and to DDC's current and future students and families."

Founded in 1965, DDC was the creation of Columbia undergraduates who were moved by the disparities between their Ivy League institution and the underserved Harlem community. Annually, 90 percent of high school seniors participating in DDC programs graduate on time and enter college the following fall semester, which greatly surpasses city, state and national outcomes for low-income, first-generation college and minority students.

Ayala is a leader in educational advocacy for the local community with nearly 20 years of experience in youth development. A Bronx native, he has focused on teaching and counseling underserved youth throughout his career. Ayala's background in youth development dates to his time as a College student, when he coordinated childcare for Columbia's Harlem Restoration Project.

"The opportunity to lead a program that provides support and guidance for young people who would otherwise not have those opportunities is extraordinarily exciting," says Ayala. "What I love most, which is at the core of DDC's mission, are the double discoveries: Columbia has the chance to discover the gold mine right in its own backyard, while our young people get to see one of the finest institutions in the world and create a set of expectations for themselves about what is possible for them to achieve."



Joseph Ayala '94 has focused on teaching and counseling youth throughout his career.
PHOTO: BRUCE GILBERT

Since 2006, Ayala has designed and implemented educational programs focused on college access and completion at Publicolor, a youth development nonprofit dedicated to enhancing opportunities for at-risk New York City children. Before joining Publicolor, he spent seven years at Prep for Prep, a leadership development program for promising New York City students of color, which he himself attended.

"Joe brings together a passion for the center's mission with demonstrated experience helping New York City youth make the most of educational opportunities," says Roger Lehecka '67, '74 GSAS, a co-founder of DDC and member of the DDC Board of Friends. "His life is an example of how the right help at the right time can change everything. I am confident that his leadership and vision will provide such assistance to current and future DDC students."

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Five Minutes with ... Annette Insdorf

Annette Insdorf Ph.D. is the director of undergraduate film studies at Columbia and a professor in the Graduate Film Program of the School of the Arts (which she chaired 1990–95). She is the author of *Double Lives, Second Chances: The Cinema of Krzysztof Kieslowski; Francois Truffaut*, a study of the French director's work; *Philip Kaufman*; and the landmark study *Indelible Shadows: Film and the Holocaust*. Her commentaries can be heard on many DVDs and she has interviewed more than 100 film celebrities in the popular "Reel Pieces" series at Manhattan's 92nd Street Y.

Where were you born and raised?
Paris until I was 3½, at which point my parents decided we could all have a better life in New York. We did not have French citizenship: They were Polish-Jewish Holocaust survivors who met in Paris on a blind date at the circus. My father's cousin lived in the Bronx and urged us to move there. So we took the *SS Liberty* and eventually landed on the Grand Concourse.

What did you want to be when you were growing up?
I first wanted to be a performer. I was always extroverted, singing at parties, and turning every street into a stage. Fortunately, my parents didn't think much of my aspiration and insisted that I take my classes seriously. I did, and loved school. But I had an impressive voice (mezzo-soprano), and I was accepted into the singing program at Juilliard. Every Saturday, from age of 13 to the age of 17, my mother accompanied me on the subway to this very neighborhood of Morningside Heights, where I was trained to be an opera singer. But when it came time to commit to singing in a larger way, my father warned me that the career of a performer is difficult and often short. He and my mother urged me — and I'll always be grateful to them — to go to the kind of college where my intellect could be expanded, and where I could really choose a career. That led me to CUNY's Queens College. My mother had recently earned a Ph.D. in French and was teaching there. She inspired me to embrace the same career, and off I went to Yale for a Ph.D. in English.

What drew you to study film?
Yale had many great film societies when I was there, and I went to the movies almost every night. That was the real basis of my film education. I got the feeling from my classes that everything of value had already been written about literature. But with film, I had something new and meaningful to say. I was lucky because my adviser was Harold Bloom, and he convinced me not to leave Yale in order to try for a Ph.D. in film at NYU. Instead, he encouraged me to finish my doctorate in three years, and then teach whatever I want. After two years of coursework, I spent the third year writing my dissertation, and teaching a class at Yale on The French New Wave. ... I got to share with about 20 students the films of Truffaut, Godard, Resnais, Chabrol and Rohmer. We were all so excited by the personal movies of these former film critics, and by the cinematic language they were using to tell their stories.

How would you describe your approach to cinema?
My approach is, first and foremost, sympathetic. When I sit down to watch any movie, I try to appreciate it in its own terms — whether it's mainstream, avant-garde, old or new. I seem to have developed a simultaneous emotional and cerebral response. I am able to feel things with immediacy in the darkness, while taking notes to grasp — and later understand — what I'm perceiving.

What undergraduate courses do you teach?
"American Film History, 1930–60" (also known as "Introduction to Genre and Auteur Study"), which is an introductory-level lecture course. And the "Senior Seminar in Film Studies," through which film majors write their senior essays. On a rotating basis, I also offer such courses as "Polish Film," "Holocaust Cinema" and "Auteur Study" (whether Kieslowski or Philip Kaufman).

What's the most valuable thing a professor can do for his or her students?
Get them to think with rigor as well as sympathy and to write with clarity as well as elegance.

Are you working on any personal projects right now?
I'm starting to work on my next book, which is about the films of Polish director Wojciech Has. He is not well known in the United States but has a certain cult status; for example, his *Saragossa Manuscript* was Jerry Garcia's favorite film.

What's your favorite place to be?
In my husband's arms.

What's your most treasured possession?
I try not to get attached to things but if there were a sudden fire in my apartment, the first thing I would grab while running out is my laptop. Isn't that awful?

What's the first movie you recall seeing?
It's either *Trapeze* or *The Greatest Show on Earth*. I'm not sure which one because I remember only the exhilaration of the circus scenes.

What reading is on your nightstand right now?
The truth? All I have is a remote control to my TV, where the default channel is TCM, Turner Classic Movies. I tend to fall asleep while watching an old black-and-white film.

Interview: Alexis Tonti '11 Arts



Columbia Establishes Butler Aging Center

Columbia has established a University-wide, interdisciplinary aging center with a mission to explore and better understand the aging process and its societal implications, and named it in honor of the late Dr. Robert N. Butler '49, '53 P&S. The inaugural director of the Robert N. Butler Columbia Aging Center is Ursula M. Staudinger, founding dean of the Jacobs Center on Lifelong Learning and Institutional Development at Jacobs University in Bremen, Germany, and v.p. of the German National Academy of Sciences.

Butler was a gerontologist, psychiatrist, Pulitzer Prize-winning author and founding director of the National Institute on Aging. "We are proud to have created this new center that will mobilize the intellectual resources of the entire University to address the challenges and opportunities that demographic change pose for individuals and society alike," said Provost John Coatsworth.



Dr. Robert N. Butler '49, '53 P&S
PHOTO: KIM MARTINEAU '97J

Located at the Mailman School of Public Health on the Medical Center campus, the Butler Columbia Aging Center consists of an Aging Lab and the International Longevity Center, founded by Butler in 1990, and reflects the University's recognition that the study of aging is inherently multidisciplinary. The center organizes and builds on existing aging-related programs and activities, translating scientific knowledge into policy and practice. It focuses on the systemic nature of aging — the continual interaction among biological, behavioral and sociocultural factors that constitute human development — and will forge partnerships with the academic, corporate, nonprofit and public sectors to develop policies on aging, engage communities and effect societal change.

The Aging Lab is dedicated to research on aging as well as on ways that individuals and society can benefit from the latest scientific knowledge. That research enables the International Longevity Center to develop public policies and education and community-outreach programs. The Longevity Center is part of a global consortium of 13 such centers, including ones in Cape Town, Paris and Tokyo.

Dean's Scholarship Reception Brings Together Donors and Recipients





Nearly 500 named scholarship donors and student recipients filled Roone Arledge Auditorium on February 6 at the annual Dean's Scholarship Reception. The reception gives students who receive named scholarships and the donors of those scholarships the opportunity to meet and to share stories about their College experiences. The evening's speakers were Dean James J. Valentini (above left, third from right); donor Daniel Loeb '83 and one of his scholarship recipients, Zack Susel '11; and Phillip Ross '14, a member of the Senior Fund Executive Committee. See more at college.columbia.edu/namedscholarships and facebook.com/alumnicc/photos_albums.

PHOTOS: EILEEN BARROSO

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

■ *Modern Vampires of the City*, the newest album by Vampire Weekend, was No. 1 on *Rolling Stone*'s list of the 50 best albums of 2013 and No. 4 on *The Guardian*'s Best Albums of 2013 list. Vampire Weekend's members, **Ezra Koenig '06, Rostam Batmanglij '06, Chris Tomson '06** and **Chris Baio '07,** met and began their musical career while College students.

■ **Melissa Mark-Viverito '91** was inaugurated as New York City Council speaker on January 29, succeeding Christine Quinn in what the *Daily News* called "New York City's second most powerful political post." Mark-Viverito, a council member since 2005, was elected unanimously with the support of new mayor Bill de Blasio and is the first Hispanic to hold citywide office. At her inauguration ceremony, Mark-Viverito declared, "Today, we live in the most unequal city in the nation. But it is a new day in New York City. Now is the time to embrace our progressive moment and put our values into action."

■ **David Henry Gerson '08,** who starred in the film *Chapel Perilous*, won the YouTube Audience Award at this year's Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah, which took place January 16–26. The College was once again well-represented at the festival, with alumni filling roles from executive producer to principal cast members. In addition to Gerson, others involved in films at the festival were **Sam Bisbee '90, Frances Bodomo '10, Maggie Gyllenhaal '99, Yana Gorskaya '96, Jim Jarmusch '75, Gabe Liedman '04, Colin Patton '01, Jonathan Schwartz '03, Jenny Slate '04** and **Caroline Suh '93.**

■ **Adam Kushner '03,** former executive editor of *National Journal*, has joined *The Washington Post* as editor of a new digital opinion and analysis venture that aims to deliver wide-ranging commentary on major debates facing Washington, D.C., the country and the world. At *National Journal*, Kushner ran all aspects of the weekly political magazine, from setting overall direction for coverage to overseeing individual writing. Previously, he was a senior editor at *Newsweek*, leading foreign coverage and writing on ideas and trends; editor of TNR.com, where he oversaw a site re-launch; and assistant managing editor at *The New Republic*.

■ The film *12 Years a Slave*, whose producers included **Dede Gardner '90,** won the Oscar for Best Motion Picture of the Year at the 2014 Academy Awards on March 2. Previously, it won the Best Motion Picture – Drama award at the Golden Globes, Movie of the Year at the AFI Awards and Best Film at the BAFTA Film Awards, among other honors.



Dede Gardner '90
PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

■ **John Chun '91** was appointed a judge to King County's Superior Court by Washington Gov. Jay Inslee, effective January 6. Chun had been a member of the Summit Law Group with a civil litigation practice and clerked for the Hon. Eugene Wright of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

■ **Terrence McNally '60**'s latest play, *Mothers and Sons*, opens on Broadway on March 24. Tony Award-winner Tyne Daly stars as a mother who pays an unexpected visit to the New York apartment of her late son's ex-partner, who is now married to another man and has a child, and is challenged to face how society has changed.

■ **Eric Goldstein '80,** who had been a partner at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, will become CEO and e.v.p. of UJA-Federation of New York, the

IN LUMINE TUO

■ **STIGLITZ:** University Professor and Nobel Laureate Joseph E. Stiglitz was awarded the 2014 Daniel Patrick Moynihan Prize for Research on Income Inequality. Named for the late New York senator, the award is presented annually by The American Academy of Political and Social Science to individuals who "use sound analysis and social science to inform public policy, while also contributing to the public discourse on society's most pressing issues." Stiglitz will be presented the prize on Thursday, May 8, in Washington, D.C.

The academy cites Stiglitz's recent book, *The Price of Inequality: How Today's Divided Society Endangers Our Future*, as important, noting, "Stiglitz has contributed greatly to our understanding of the sources and dire ramifications of economic inequality in America."

■ **WILLIAMS:** Gareth Williams, the Violin Family Professor of Classics and chair of the classics department, was awarded the 2013 C.J. Goodman Award of Merit for his book *The Cosmic Viewpoint: A Study of Seneca's Natural Questions*. Williams' book examines the cultural and historical context that inspired Seneca's scientific and philosophical explanations of meteorological phenomena in his famous work *Natural Questions*.

On the importance of Williams' book, the award committee stated: "In an era when STEM-centered education seems to be crowding out the humanities, *The Cosmic Viewpoint* is a welcome reminder that our discipline has a good deal to offer those interested in science, technology, engineering and mathematics."

Hire Columbians

Who better to hire Columbia students than Columbia alumni? That's the idea behind "Hire Columbians," a campaign by the Center for Career Education to get Columbia alumni to hire students for internships or full-time positions. For more information, go to careered ucation.columbia.edu/hirecolumbians.



Eric Goldstein '80

world's largest local philanthropy, on July 1. Goldstein has been involved in UJA-Federation activities for 25 years as a lay leader, most recently as vice chair, and will succeed John Ruskay, who is retiring after 15 years as CEO and EVP.

■ **Ganesh Betanabhatla '06,** managing director at Talara Capital and a former J.P. Morgan oil and gas investment banker, and **Matthew Schoenfeld '08,** a specialist in Morgan Stanley's risk arbitrage group, were among those named on *Forbes* magazine's "30 Under 30" list in finance for 2014, released in January. Betanabhatla also was recognized in January by *Oil and Gas Investor* as one of its "20 Under 40" in energy finance. Meanwhile, **Amir Rao '06,** co-founder of Supergiant Games and co-creator of the action role-playing video game Bastion, was included on *Forbes'* "30 Under 30" list in games for 2014.

■ **Julius M. Genachowski '85,** who from June 2009 to May 2013 chaired the FCC, has been named managing director of The Carlyle Group's U.S. Buyout, a fund that engages in buyouts, privatizations and strategic minority investments.

■ **Stanley Lubman '55, '70L,** a pioneer in Chinese legal studies in the United States, received a Distinguished Columbian in Teaching Award from the Columbia Law School Association on January 3. Lubman is a senior fellow at The Honorable G. William and Ariadna Miller Institute for Global Challenges and the Law and a distinguished lecturer in residence at the UC Berkeley School of Law. He has specialized in China as a scholar and as a practicing lawyer for more than 50 years and taught at Stanford, Yale, Columbia, Harvard, the University of Heidelberg and the University of London before returning to Berkeley in 2002.



Stanley Lubman '55, '70L
PHOTO: UC BERKELEY SCHOOL OF LAW

■ **Janice B. Min '90, '91J** has become the co-president and chief creative officer of Guggenheim Partners, which owns *The Hollywood Reporter* and *Billboard*. She will be responsible for the editorial direction of the two brands. Min, who had been the editorial director of *The Hollywood Reporter* since March 2010, previously was editor-in-chief of *Us Weekly*.

■ The legacy of former Dean of the College **Jack Greenberg '45, '48L,** a crusading civil rights attorney who argued the landmark case *Brown v. Board of Education* before the U.S. Supreme Court and won Martin Luther King Jr. the right to march from Selma to Montgomery, Ala., was the focus of a symposium at the Law School on January 24. Greenberg, the Alphonse Fletcher Jr. Professor of Law, was dean from 1989 to 1993, after which he became a full-time professor and vice dean at the Law School. He also created its Human Rights Internship Program, which has placed more than 1,500 students in human rights organizations worldwide.

■ University Trustee **Jonathan S. Lavine '88,** managing partner of Sankaty Advisors and managing director of Bain Capital, will be the guest of honor at Columbia/Barnard Hillel's annual Seixas Award Dinner, to be held in Low Rotunda on May 15. Lavine, a former chair of the Board of Visitors, will receive the Gershom Mendes Seixas Award in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Jewish life at Columbia.

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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

College Has Broadened Bintu Conteh '14's Love of Theater

By Nathalie Alonso '08

From performing Shakespeare to musical roles to an internship at the Apollo, **Bintu Conteh '14** has turned her time at the College into a training in all things theater.

Most influential, however, has been her experience with the student group Black Theatre Ensemble, which began with a lead role in spring 2011 as part of BTE's annual festival of one-act plays. The show, *Prophet's Wife*, was a drama by Harrison David Rivers '09 Arts about a woman married to a man without genitalia. "I remember thinking, 'Wow, others think I have the potential to carry a show.' That was really exciting for me," says Conteh, who had an ensemble role in the Kings Crown Shakespeare Troupe's presentation of *The Taming of the Shrew* that same semester.

She adds, "[*Prophet's Wife*] was really hard work because it was such a strange play. A lot of work went into connecting to the character, but I was thankful to be part of that show … It was the first moment at Columbia where I realized, 'I think I can do this.'"

Conteh has since worn multiple hats with BTE, which showcases playwrights and actors of color. She was stage manager for its fall 2012 production of *Funnyhouse of a Negro*, a 1964 one-act play by Adrienne Kennedy, and directed the group's spring 2013 staging of *'Til Death* by Nailah Robinson '13. Last fall, as BTE president and producer for Eisa Davis' Pulitzer-nominated play *Bulrusher*, Conteh managed the show's budget and secured space for rehearsals.

Bulrusher explores themes of race, sexuality and gender — the same topics that prompted Conteh to major in American studies. "I love that I get to incorporate what I'm learning in my classes into the kind of theater I am interested in," says Conteh, who cites two Barnard courses, "Black Women in America" and "Explorations in Black Theater," among those she has found most relevant.

Conteh, whose parents hail from Sierra Leone, attributes her initial interest in performance to a casual remark by a family friend. "I was doing an imitation of my mom, with her accent and all, and my mom's best friend said, '[Bintu] is such a character.' And I thought, 'You know what, yes,'" recalls Conteh, who grew up in New Brunswick, N.J., and was around 10 at the time. "Since then, it's been something I've wanted to do."



Bintu Conteh '14 is pondering a career in theater administration.
PHOTO: ERICA BOWER '14

Beyond BTE, Conteh has played a disciple in the student troupe NOMADS' spring 2012 production of Patrick Blute '12's *SPEARS: The Gospel According to Britney*, which narrates the life of Jesus through Britney Spears songs, and portrayed Chuck Bean in the Columbia Musical Theater Society's presentation of *Bright Lights, Big City* by Paul Scott Goodman. She says she particularly enjoyed her contrasting roles in the Barnard Theater Department's spring 2013 production of *Eye Piece*. The non-linear play by Barnard lecturer Rinde Eckert explores themes of sight and blindness. One of Conteh's characters, an elderly blind woman reading a magazine, provided comic relief; her other part was a personification of death.

Conteh was further exposed to the African-American performing arts tradition at the Apollo Theater, where she procured a spring 2013 internship in the programming department through Columbia Arts Experience. The program, co-sponsored by the Center for Career Education and the Arts Initiative at Columbia University, offers art-related internships in New York City and provides support in the form of a stipend and career counseling. Conteh provided administrative support and contributed to the Apollo Archive Project, which involved organizing more than 2,000 colorized images of musicians who headlined the legendary venue.

She continued to intern at the Apollo during summer 2013, when she helped plan and orchestrate the first Breakin' Convention, a hip-hop dance festival that featured acts from around the world. William Furio, an associate in the Apollo's programming department, says the event showcased Conteh's energy and people skills. "She was there to coordinate the back and forth — calling restaurants, getting flowers, all while going up and down the stairs a million times," he says. "She was just so excited about everything."

As a result of her diverse experiences with BTE and the Apollo, Conteh is pondering a career as a theater producer. "I began to realize that I like all the aspects of theater, whether it is being on stage or backstage," she says.

Though she always planned to be involved in undergraduate theater, it was the Core that drew Conteh to the College. "I loved that I would take a science class, an art history class and a music class," says Conteh, who as a campus tour guide shares her enthusiasm for the Core with prospective students. "Something I like to say on my tours is that I want to be a genius. I want to know everything, and the Core is helping me with that endeavor."

Nathalie Alonso '08, *from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball's official Spanish language website.*

Roar, Lion, Roar

Boretti Builds Upon Lions' Baseball Legacy

By Lee Lowenfish '63

Columbia baseball has enjoyed its share of success through the years both in team and individual accomplishments, and coach Brett Boretti hopes to add to that legacy when the Lions defend their Ivy League championship this spring.

Columbia's most famous baseball alumnus was Lou Gehrig '25, who slugged home runs on South Field for two seasons before launching a Hall of Fame career with the New York Yankees. Earlier, Eddie Collins (Class of 1907) shone at shortstop for the Light Blue and went on to a Hall of Fame career as a second baseman with the Philadelphia Athletics and Chicago White Sox. More recently, Gene Larkin '84 stroked his way into baseball immortality with his extra-inning, pinch-hit single that won the 1991 World Series for the Minnesota Twins. And don't forget speedy outfielder Fernando Perez '06, who scored the winning run in the only game the Tampa Bay Rays won in the 2008 World Series.

There have been periods of team success as well. Columbia won consecutive Ivy League titles in 1933 and 1934, took three of four crowns from 1960 through 1963 and captured consecutive titles again in 1976 and 1977. Last year's Ivy championship was the 11th for the Light Blue and their second since Boretti arrived on campus prior to the 2006 season.

Fresh from five outstanding years at Division III Franklin and Marshall, where his teams compiled a 116–82 record, Boretti did not take long to establish a winning program. In just his third season he led Columbia to the 2008 Ivy League title, the Lions rallying to beat Dartmouth 7–5 in the deciding game of the best-of-three playoff in Hanover, N.H. Captain Henry Perkins '08 moved over from second base to save the game with four innings of stellar relief and also belted a big insurance home run.

There were no Gehrig Division (Columbia, Cornell, Penn and Princeton) or league titles the following season but for the first time Columbia did beat Division I powers in Texas (Lamar) and California (Cal-State Fullerton). In 2010, Columbia won the Gehrig Division, but Dartmouth turned the tables by winning the rubber game of the best-of-3 playoffs at Columbia. Thus, it was sweet revenge for the freshmen from that team when, in front of a record-setting crowd of more than 1,000 at Columbia's Robertson Field at Satow Stadium last May, the Lions swept a doubleheader from the Big Green 6–5 (10 innings) and 12–5 to earn another trip to the NCAA tournament.

Boretti's 2013 Lions were not satisfied with just winning the Ivy League title, setting a regular season record of 16–4, and leading the league in batting average and ERA. To cap off their memorable season, the Lions won an NCAA tournament game for the first time in school history. Trailing 5–0 against New Mexico in the eighth inning, first baseman Alex Black '13 got Columbia on the scoreboard with a two-run homer that sparked a rally that tied the game. After Columbia took the lead in the top of the 13th inning on second baseman Nick Crucet '13's RBI single, Black moved to the mound to earn the save.



Brett Boretti has led the Lions to an 89–71 record in eight seasons as head coach.
PHOTO: GENE BOYARS

One of the charms of college baseball is that talented position players like Black are often asked to contribute as pitchers. "The more your best athletes are on the field at important moments, the better your chances will be," says Boretti.

After Columbia's season ended with a loss to Arizona State, Black was selected by the Kansas City Royals in the 29th round of Major League Baseball's free agent draft. Working exclusively as a relief pitcher, he made an impressive pro debut with a 2–2 record and 3.24 ERA. He joins in pro baseball two other drafted Lions who played for Boretti: Pat Lowery '12, the 2010 Ivy League Pitcher of the Year who has two years under his belt after being drafted in the 21st round in 2012 by the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, and outfielder Dario Pizzano '14, the 2012 Ivy League Player of the Year who was selected by the Seattle Mariners in 2012. Since he was drafted, Pizzano has hit .324, slugged .482 and — impressively in this age of swing-and-miss baseball — has walked seven more times than he has struck out.



Boretti, with trophy, and assistant coach Dan Tischler leave Robertson Field at Satow Stadium after the Lions swept a doubleheader against Dartmouth on May 4 to win the 2013 Ivy League Championship.
PHOTO: MIKE McLAUGHLIN

Boretti, 42, a native of Beverly, Mass., who was named Ivy League Coach of the Year last season, came to Columbia with a solid baseball pedigree. He was a four-year starter at catcher for Davidson — yes, the same Davidson that ruined the NCAA hopes of Columbia's great 1968 basketball team. Boretti played for and later was an assistant coach for the highly respected Dick Cooke, who has been on NCAA rules committees and was an assistant coach for Team USA at the 2000 Sydney Olympics and the 2008 Beijing Olympics. During his junior year, in 1993, Boretti made the Southern Conference all-star team and followed it up during the summer by being selected to the all-star team of the prestigious Cape Cod League, where he competed against such future major league players as Nomar Garciaparra, Matt Morris and Jay Payton.

A learning experience that summer proved instrumental in Boretti's development as a coach. "I struggled with failure as a player. I was a helmet-thrower," he admits. A Cape Cod League coach called him aside and told him sternly that tantrums had no place in baseball; they hurt both the player and the team. He absorbed the lesson and passed it on after he turned to coaching, and now one of his greatest attributes is his ability to convey to players his hard-earned knowledge about baseball's inevitable struggles.

"This game eats you alive," says Mike DeFazio '06, a catcher on Boretti's first team, in 2006, which won only six Ivy League games. "I learned from coach Boretti that baseball is a game of failure, but you're always one pitch away" from making something good happen. DeFazio now coaches for the KIPP charter high school in New York City. Boretti is pleased that the coaching bug has also bitten Jon Eisen '13, a player he describes as "the greatest overachiever I ever coached" and who is now working for the RBI (Restore Baseball in the Inner City) program in his hometown of Nashville.

Boretti, whose Columbia teams have compiled an 89–71 Ivy League record in his eight seasons, welcomes many voices to explore the subject of the mental game of baseball. He appreciates input from Brett Walker, Columbia's new director of peak performance and a former college pitcher, who organizes regular seminars for the team. For winter break reading this year, Boretti distributed to the team copies of *Heads Up Baseball*, a book and tapes by sports psychologist Brian Cain.

As usual, the Lions will spend the early part of their season in warmer climes against opponents like South Florida and Texas before they open defense of their Ivy title on March 29 with a doubleheader against Brown at Robertson Field at Satow Stadium.

Leading the Lions will be their tri-captains, durable catcher Mike Fischer '14, ace left-handed pitcher David Speer '14 and steady shortstop Aaron Silbar '14. Boretti looks for a big season from Speer, whom he says "has increased his velocity from the low 80s [miles per hour] to the mid-80s, and he has a chance to pitch at the next level."

Outfielder/designated hitter Joey Falcone '16 GS, a former Marine medic and veteran of tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan and son of former major league pitcher Pete Falcone, is back after hitting .331 and compiling a .520 slugging percentage last season. Nick McGuire '16 may get a chance to fill Black's big shoes, and Jordan Serena '15, Gus Craig '15E and Robb Paller '16 will vie for playing time in the outfield.

In addition to Speer, who was 6–3 with a team-leading 2.34 ERA last season, another pitcher to watch is Joey Donino '14, who was 7–0 with 69 strikeouts in just 56.2 innings last season. Kevin Roy '16 and Zack Tax '14, who contributed important shutdown innings in 2013, and newcomer Ryan Marks '17 are also expected to see mound action.

Boretti and his staff are well aware that a target will be on Columbia's head in 2014 — the respected national publication *Baseball America* has picked the Lions to repeat as Ivy League champion — but they relish the challenge. As associate head coach Pete Maki puts it, "Guys want to win for Boretti not just for themselves or their teammates. They want to win for him because he is so tremendously competitive."

Lee Lowenfish '63 *is the author of the award-winning biography* Branch Rickey: Baseball's Ferocious Gentleman, *and is a member of the national board of the College Baseball Hall of Fame.*

SCOREBOARD

1 Men's fencing's national ranking and finish at the Ivy League Championships.

$12,279 Money raised by Columbia Athletics for cancer research during its Play 4 Kay women's basketball game.

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March 22
CAA Alumni Reception — Baseball
Austin, Texas

March 22
CAA Alumni Reception — Women's Tennis
Miami

March 30
Field Hockey Alumnae Game

April 12
Baseball Homecoming Weekend vs. Princeton

April 29
Varsity C Celebration
Levien Gymnasium

May 5
Football Golf Outing

Men's Fencing Shares Ivy Crown

Columbia's men's fencing team earned a share of the 2014 Ivy League Championship on February 9, compiling a 4–1 record to tie defending champion Harvard. It was Columbia's first men's fencing title since 2008 and 34th since Ivy fencing began in 1956. The Columbia women finished third at 4–2, behind Princeton and Harvard, even though the Lions lost Olympian Nzingha Prescod '15 to injury on the first day of competition.

Columbia fencing enjoyed a superb season, the men attaining the nation's No. 1 ranking and the women being ranked as high as fifth. The NCAA Championships will be held Thursday, March 20–Sunday, 23 in Columbus, Ohio.

Columbia's men's team easily defeated Penn and Brown to start the Ivy meet, then beat Harvard head-to-head by rallying from a 13–11 deficit as Jack Hoyle '16, Harry Bergman '16E and Brian Ro '16 scored pressure wins. A 20–7 rout of Yale gave the Lions a 4–0 record going into their final match against Princeton, and the two teams were tied 12–12 before the Tigers won two of the last three bouts to win 14–13 and foil Columbia's bid for an outright Ivy title.

The Columbia women swept their opening-day matches against Penn, Brown and Cornell, but lost to Harvard 14–13 to start the second day. Columbia beat Yale 19–8 to keep its hopes for a share of the title alive, but Princeton, which won all six of its matches and had not lost in more than a year, beat Columbia 19–8 to drop the Lions to third place.

Men's, Women's Tennis Win ECAC Indoor Titles

Columbia's men's and women's tennis teams enjoyed successful indoor seasons highlighted by wins at the Eastern College Athletic Conference Indoor Championships.

After beating five of six opponents to start their spring season, the men's team blanked Harvard 4–0 to win the ECAC title on February 17. The Lions got off to a quick start by taking the doubles point as the teams of Winston Lin '15-Mike Vermeer '16 and Dragos Ignat '16-Richard Pham '17 won their matches. Vermeer, Ashok Narayana '15 and Bert Vancura '15 posted singles victories for the sweep. The other three singles matches were still in progress at the time of Columbia's clinching win, so they were not completed.

Following the ECAC victory, Columbia rose six places to No. 34 in the International Tennis Association (ITA) national rankings.

One week earlier, Columbia's women's team beat Yale for the first time since 2006, winning the ECAC crown 4–1 on February 9. Columbia captured the doubles point when, after the teams split the first two matches, Crystal Leung '15 and Tina Jiang '17 rallied from a 3–5 deficit to even the final match and ultimately win 8–6. Singles victories by Jiang, Kanika Vaidya '16 and Ioana Alecsiu '14 gave the Lions the ECAC Championship.

Columbia's women climbed to No. 35 in the ITA national rankings as of February 18, the highest in program history.

For the latest news on Columbia athletics, visit **gocolumbialions.com.**

Women's Swimming and Diving Sweeps Dual Meets

Columbia's women's swimming and diving team enjoyed its best season in program history, sweeping all Ivy opponents in the Lions' first undefeated dual-meet campaign.

"If you said this to us as freshmen, or even last year, it would have been completely unbelievable. To do something completely unprecedented … it's exciting to be a part of history," said team captain Corinna Bertelsen '14.

Columbia started the season with a splash on November 9, defeating Harvard for the first time in program history at Uris Pool 163.5–136.5. Wins over Yale and Penn the following weekend sent the Lions into winter break with a 3–0 record. The Lions easily defeated Cornell and Brown, then capped their dual-meet season with wins over Princeton 165–131 and Dartmouth 167–124 on the final weekend. Highlighting the victory over Dartmouth were the performances of Gabbie Toback '17, who won the 200 backstroke in 1:58.25 to set a program and Uris Pool record, and Mikaila Gaffney '15, who won the 200 freestyle and 200 breaststroke and participated in the winning 200 medley relay.

"It feels absolutely amazing to finish 7–0, the best we've ever been as a team," said Alena Kluge '14, whose program record in the 200 backstroke was broken by Toback. "I've seen a lot of improvement in my teammates, and being part of a team that could go out like this — I couldn't ask for more."

Columbia finished fourth in the Ivy League Championships on February 20–22 as Harvard won for the third consecutive year. Kluge won the 200 individual medley and Gaffney finished first in the 100 breaststroke.

35 Highest national women's tennis ranking in school history, achieved this year.

2 ECAC tennis titles Columbia holds this year, with both the men's and women's teams winning.

7 Number of dual-meet Ivy League wins by women's swimming and diving, as the Lions went 7–0 against league opponents.

Varsity Show Endears and Endures

By Thomas Vinciguerra '85, '86J, '90 GSAS

In a world of planned obsolescence and the latest Internet meme, some things do last.

Every year, the Varsity Show delights the Columbia community with a witty, razor-sharp reminder of what really matters in these parts. The production is a rite of spring, a heady respite before dreaded finals. It's also the savviest take on the undergraduate experience around. If you want to know what's uppermost on the student mind, buy a ticket. All will be revealed in the two-plus hours that send up everything from devilish administrators to micro-trends, from Plato to libido.

Why, though, do such adolescent shenanigans endure? And make no mistake; endure they do. The Varsity Show has been around for 120 years. That makes it one of the oldest things on the Morningside campus — older than the campus itself, in fact.

It's too easy to explain the show merely by thundering, like Tevye, "Tradition!" After all, plenty of our rituals have gone the way of mandatory Latin. Most aren't missed. Can anyone describe the Cane Spree? What was the Goodwood Cup given for, anyway? Is there a single person who cares?

Quite simply, the Varsity Show is still with us because we need it. From time to time, every young woman and man in the College, confronting the triple threat of adulthood, the Core Curriculum and the greatest city in the world, requires some kind of affirmation. The Varsity Show offers it in the best possible way — by mocking what's driving them nuts and celebrating whatever instills confidence. If the show offers up an earful about the aesthetic (and nomenclatural) horrors of the Northwest Corner Building or a particular class creep, fear not. It won't be long before *Alma Mater* herself arises from her throne and appears on stage before you, ready to reassure and inspire.



Now, the show is hardly unique. Just about every outfit of higher learning worth mentioning has its loopy annual musical comedy. Columbia itself has several. A certain J.D. program here offers The Law Revue. Over at Uris, they unwrap the Columbia Business School Follies not once but twice a year.

Nonetheless, the Varsity Show is nonpareil. Any effort that can attract such wildly diverse talents as John Erskine (Class of 1900), Herman Mankiewicz (Class of 1917), Jacques Barzun '27, I.A.L. Diamond '41, Sorrell Booke '49, Terrence McNally '60, Howard Kissel '64, Jon "Bowzer" Bauman '68, Jeanine Tesori '83 Barnard, David Rakoff '86, Eric Garcetti '92, Brian Yorkey '93, Tom Kitt '96, Jenny Slate '04, Greta Gerwig '06 Barnard and Kate McKinnon '06 has earned bragging rights. Whenever the kids in Cambridge smugly mention Hasty Pudding, or Old Nassau types pile it on about the Triangle Club, all you have to do is say, "Rodgers and Hammerstein." If that doesn't shut them up, just add, "And Hart."

Not that it's an unbroken lineage by any means. In 1895, a bare year after its founding, the show's leading lights, acting out of pure ego, refused to mount a follow-up. WWII pre-empted the proceedings in 1943. Creative bankruptcy and insufficient funds were at fault, respectively, in 1962 and 1965. The unpleasantness of 1968 seemed, at the time, to be the final blow.

Yet as the campus regrouped, in the four years from 1978 to 1982 precisely as many efforts to revive the show arose. The last one, *Columbia Graffiti*, was a modest cabaret that wasn't even called a Varsity Show. Nonetheless, the crew that produced it galvanized the Class of 1920 into donating its treasury the following year to ensure that never again would the production languish. And for a generation, it hasn't.

It's that unspoken ethos, transcending the years, that defines the Varsity Show as more than a theatrical. It's part of the student DNA. Put it this way: In 1906, the audience for *The Conspirators* was implored to clap its hands and cheer to save Tinker Bell and the football team alike. You could drop that same shtick into the show today and get the same uproarious result.

Talk about spirit. As surely as South Field will always have scuff marks, and as surely as there is a College on Broadway, every year a distinctly Light Blue reality check of gags, ballads, show stoppers and, of course, pony ballets can be counted on to lift us out of our academic doldrums — and, for a while at least, leave us humming.

Former CCT *acting editor* **Thomas Vinciguerra '85, '86J, '90 GSAS** *directed, performed and wrote — in ascending order of competence — portions of the Varsity Shows* Columbia Graffiti *and* Fear of Scaffolding. *He is the author of "Sing a Song of Morningside," a history of the show that appears in the 110th anniversary book* The Varsity Show: A Celebration.



John Bateman '38, '39 GSAS, captain of Columbia's 1937 football team, smokes a cigar while being made up prior to 1939's *Fair Enough*.

PHOTO: WIDE WORLD PHOTOS, INC.



The cast and creative team behind this spring's Varsity Show pose in John Jay Lounge.

Another Opening, Another Varsity Show

Since 1894, the theatrical tradition has satirized Columbia in song and dance

By Nathalie Alonso '08

PHOTOS: CHAR SMULLYAN

A reporter assigned to write about the 120th Varsity Show runs into an immediate access problem. In a friendly but firm email, the producers, Allie Carieri '15, Ally Engelberg '15 Barnard and Renee Kraiem '14 Barnard, decline a request to observe a rehearsal. Having consulted with the cast and other creative team members, they cite a historic policy of keeping the details of the show secret from the press and public.

In its business of satirizing Columbia in song and dance, little is off-limits for the Varsity Show. The popularity of the student-produced musical stems precisely from its penchant for commenting on sensitive issues with a humorous eye. The response from the producers for V120, however, make it clear that if anything remains sacred for the Varsity Show, it's the traditions and collaborative spirit that have come to define it.

Except for a hiatus following the 1968 student demonstrations and three other one-year interruptions, the Varsity Show has taken place annually since 1894, when it was founded as a fundraiser for Athletics. More than 100 undergraduates — the show is open to participation by College, Engineering, Barnard and General Studies students — devote long hours each year to perpetuating this oldest of Columbia's performing arts traditions.

The process begins anew each fall, when the creative team from the previous show chooses its successors. (Seniors who graduated the previous year are expected to return for this purpose.) Consisting of a director, producers, writers, composers, lyricists, a choreographer and an artistic director — nine to 10 students in total — the new team's first task is to audition and select a cast of 10–15 students. In a deviation from conventional theater practices, Varsity Show characters and songs are tailored to the actors' stage personalities and vocal ranges. "It's really nice to have someone write material for you," says V117 cast member and V119 director Chris Silverberg '13.

And then there is the way actors are notified of their selection: with a pie to the face. In a quirky community-building tradition that yields some emotionally intense moments, the creative team startles newly minted cast members in their dorms, often late at night, with tins of whipped cream. "I was in pajamas, my hair was wet, and I wasn't wearing shoes," recalls Carieri, an ensemble member for V118. "I remember bursting into tears because it was a dream of mine. It was just the coolest experience."

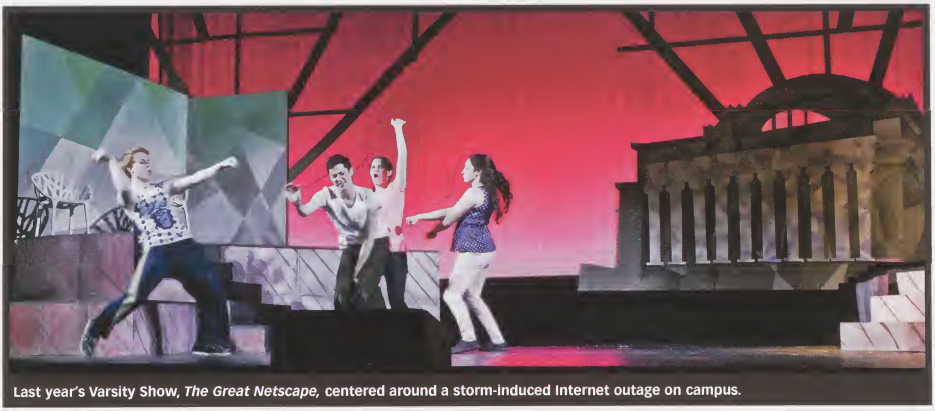
V116 cast member and V120 director Emily Feinstein '14 Barnard calls "pieing" a fellow student "the biggest rush" of her life, adding: "Initiating someone into the Varsity Show is more than just this funny thing of putting a pie in their face. You are inviting them into a [more than] 120-year-old tradition."

It is common for a student to be involved with multiple Varsity Shows. Feinstein and Silverberg, both cast members turned directors, agree that having been on stage proves useful in the moments of frustration that inevitably arise over the course of a semester-long production. "It gave me an understanding of when things are going to be rough and the ability to encourage the creative team and the cast at those moments and say, 'Hey, I know that we are not comfortable with this scene or this song right now but it is going to work out,'" says Silverberg.

After selecting a cast, the creative team goes on a weekend retreat during winter break — in recent years, these gatherings have taken place at a team member's home on Long Island and a suite in East Campus residence hall — to develop a plot and scene-by-scene breakdown of the show. "We all bring this Columbia experience with us and what we've felt at Columbia and noticed that year and want to bring out in our show," says Solomon Hoffman '14, the composer for V118 and V120.

Though each member has specific responsibilities, the Varsity Show is distinguished by a hyper-collaborative creative process in which it is typical — and expected — for the choreographer (in the case of V120, Lauren Wingenroth '15 Barnard) to make suggestions about set design, or for the composer to solicit feedback from the writers and director. "It's a unique situation where everyone has input about everything," says Eric Donahue '15, co-writer for V119 and V120. "Final decisions on a matter are left to [the creative team member who's in charge] but, for example, I came up with a song idea last year. Other [creative team members] would pitch us jokes and things would come up in conversation; we came up with the set ideas together."

In recent years, those sets have been constructed at Prentis Hall on West 125th Street, which offers the convenience of a loading dock. Though Jiin Choi '14, the artistic director for V119 and V120, also calls the Varsity Show "one of the most collaborative processes I've been a part of," one of the set pieces she is most fond of is something of her own design: a cardboard sink she



Last year's Varsity Show, *The Great Netscape,* centered around a storm-induced Internet outage on campus.

created for a V118 scene that took place in a student's room in Wien. "Though it felt like a minor detail, a lot of people in the audience were able to see that sink and say, 'That's Wien Hall,'" she says. "It really reminded me to think of details like that."

Mounting a full-length, entirely student-driven musical is, by all accounts, a lofty and demanding endeavor. The stakes are magnified by the show's rich history — Varsity Show alumni include the likes of Oscar Hammerstein II (Class of 1916), Richard Rodgers '23, I.A.L. Diamond '41 and Terrence McNally '60 — and its prominence in the Columbia community. "There is an immense amount of pressure to create something unique and hysterical and touching and relatable to every person in the theater," says Engelberg, who also was a producer for V119. "Once we get it right, we know it's going to be fantastic, but throughout the process it's really on your shoulders, knowing that this is a large event and people are watching."

As Engelberg notes, chief among the creative team's challenges is crafting a show that resonates with Columbia's various undergraduate constituencies. "Students need to feel that the person they are watching sing or act or dance on stage is a part of them, a character that could be one of their friends or someone they know," says Nick Parker '14, the lyricist for V119 and V120. "The issue is that there is not one thing that makes Columbia, Columbia; there aren't just four or five things. What you might think is a very Columbia thing, like the Core, is only specific to CC, and to some extent, SEAS."

Coming up with a plot specific to Columbia can also be a challenge, as Donahue learned from writing V119, *The Great Netscape*, which featured a storm-induced Internet outage on campus. While he thinks that the show succeeded in giving the audience an opportunity to simultaneously laugh and feel proud of their school, this time around, he and co-writer Rae Binstock '15 are looking to develop a plot in which the stakes hit closer to home. In that regard, Donohue praises V118, *The Corporate Core*, in which a CC student and self-proclaimed Renaissance man named Phineas takes on an administrator who abolishes the Core in favor of a business curriculum. "The Internet going down in this day and age lent itself to a lot of funny situations. There was a lot of humor in that," says Donahue. "But bringing the Internet back up wasn't Columbia-specific and not something that the audience would care about as much as, for example, replacing humanities with corporate training."



The creative leaders behind V120 lifted their veil of secrecy just long enough for *CCT* to photograph a dance rehearsal in John Jay Lounge.

Save for the West End Preview in February, when a selection of scenes and songs are unveiled to the Columbia community at what is now Havana Central at The West End, the premise of any Varsity Show remains a mystery until opening night. The secrecy amps up the excitement and suspense that surrounds the show but it is also a by-product of more practical concerns: the show typically undergoes adjustments right up until the curtain rises.

A key moment in that regard is Turkey Day, a longstanding tradition in which the cast and crew perform a full show for an audience of Varsity Show alumni — the event is open to all former participants — who then offer constructive criticism. It takes place the week before Spring Break, leaving a window of fewer than six weeks for show members to digest and implement feedback. Changes can range from making minor tweaks to scrapping an entire scene to gutting the entire show.

The Internet outage that was the main conflict of V119, for example, was introduced after Turkey Day. V116 and V117 were rewritten in their entirety. In the latter, Silverberg originally played what he describes as a "morose SEAS computer programmer." But at Turkey Day, "they asked, why are you making this silly, exaggerated performer do this heavy, unenthusiastic character?" says Silverberg. "So [the creative team] went back and came up with something that played more to the silliness I brought as a performer." The new part was a male student enrolled at Barnard.

"After Turkey Day, you have all of these different opinions in your head: what people have said to you, what numbers people liked, what numbers fell flat. Making sense of all of that and putting in into the final product can be a challenge," says Hoffman, who had to pen a few songs from scratch in the run-up to V118. "It's certainly a crunch, but it's also really exciting to get to develop better material, and by that point you've had more practice so it tends to happen more easily."

Hoffman's post-Turkey Day responsibilities also include arranging the music for the show's pit orchestra, which has expanded under his watch to feature more than 20 musicians from various student music groups. "It joins musicians from the classical, jazz, rock and pop communities here at Columbia," says Hoffman.

Following the final performance of each year's Varsity Show, the set is struck and parts of it become, as Choi puts it, "souvenirs" for the cast and the crew. Carieri kept the foamcore pizza she donned for "Natural Selection," a tap dance number in V118 that extolled the virtues of the unusually large slices served by Morningside Heights institution Koronet. Engleberg has a 110th Street sign from V119 that came apart during that year's Saturday show. "I will have that sign in my room for life to remind me that things are sometimes uncontrollable and you just have to roll with it," she says.

For Kraeim, taking apart the set was bittersweet. "Everything you put effort into is dismantled at a speed that is incomprehensible compared to the amount of work you put in," she says. "There is something dramatic about it, but then there is also something really important — the reminder that the actual product that we put out is only so much of what we take away from this. The family and the experience you get is so much more than those four shows."

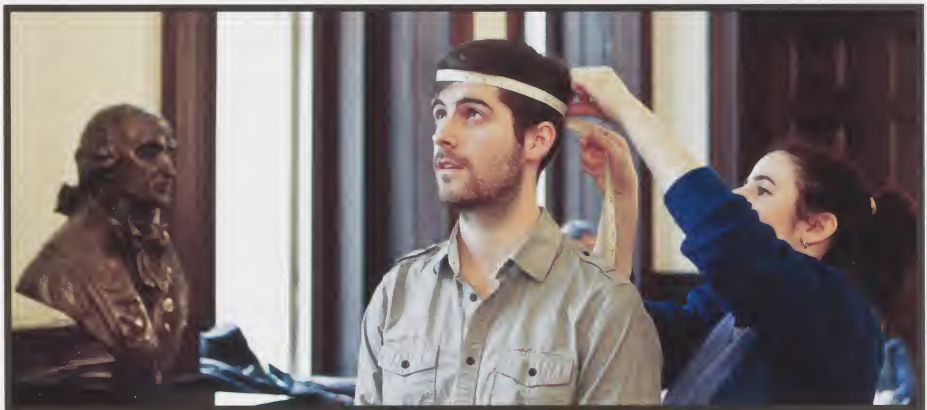
Close bonds often develop among the cast and creative team of a single production, which is hardly surprising given the amount of time they spend together. V120 calls for rehearsals all semester long, Monday through Thursday 8–11 p.m., and for three hours on Sundays. Extra rehearsals are usually scheduled right before the West End Preview and Turkey Day, and during the week leading up to opening night, known as Tech Week. "You forge a bond of, quite frankly, shared suffering because when you do a Varsity Show, there is barely time to do homework and you don't sleep," says Silverberg. "It takes over your life."

Among the Varsity Show alumni who have developed lasting bonds are Tom Kitt '96 and Brian Yorkey '93, creators of the Pulitzer Prize- and Tony Award-winning Broadway musical *Next to Normal*, who worked together on V100 and V102. [See feature in this issue.] More recently, Silverberg, Carieri and other Varsity Show alumni have collaborated on the production of *Lydia and Tom*, a musical by Hoffman and Parker about two childhood friends growing apart as they become adults; it was accepted for the 2013 New York International Fringe Festival after premiering at the Austin E. Quigley Blackbox Theatre in Lerner Hall in fall 2012. "We were working with actors who had worked on the Varsity Show, so they knew what it was like to handle original material, and our director, designers and producers also were able to guide us using their Varsity Show experience," says Hoffman.

The Varsity Show, which Feinstein describes as a "rare and all-encompassing" experience, also fosters camaraderie across generations of participants. Each year, a group of its alumni perform songs from shows past — called Class Act — during the New Student Orientation Program. The repertoire often includes "Roar, Lion, Roar," Columbia's fight song, written for the 1923 Varsity Show, and "The Stroke," a song from V102 that pokes fun at the swim test.

Another event that builds camaraderie is the presentation of the I.A.L. Diamond Award for Achievement in the Arts, held prior to a Varsity Show performance. The award, instituted in 2004, goes annually to a Columbia graduate for continued commitment to and success in the arts. Among the recipients are Kitt and Yorkey, and fellow Varsity Show alumni Kate McKinnon '06, a current *Saturday Night Live* cast member, and Jenny Slate '04, a prolific comedian and creator of the animated short film *Marcel the Shell with Shoes On*.

With such distinguished alumni, the Varsity Show has developed a reputation as a springboard for careers in entertainment. "Producing the Varsity Show was something I always wanted to do because it was the closest thing to a professional experience that I could get in my college time," says Carieri, who chose Columbia as much for the show as for the Core Curriculum.

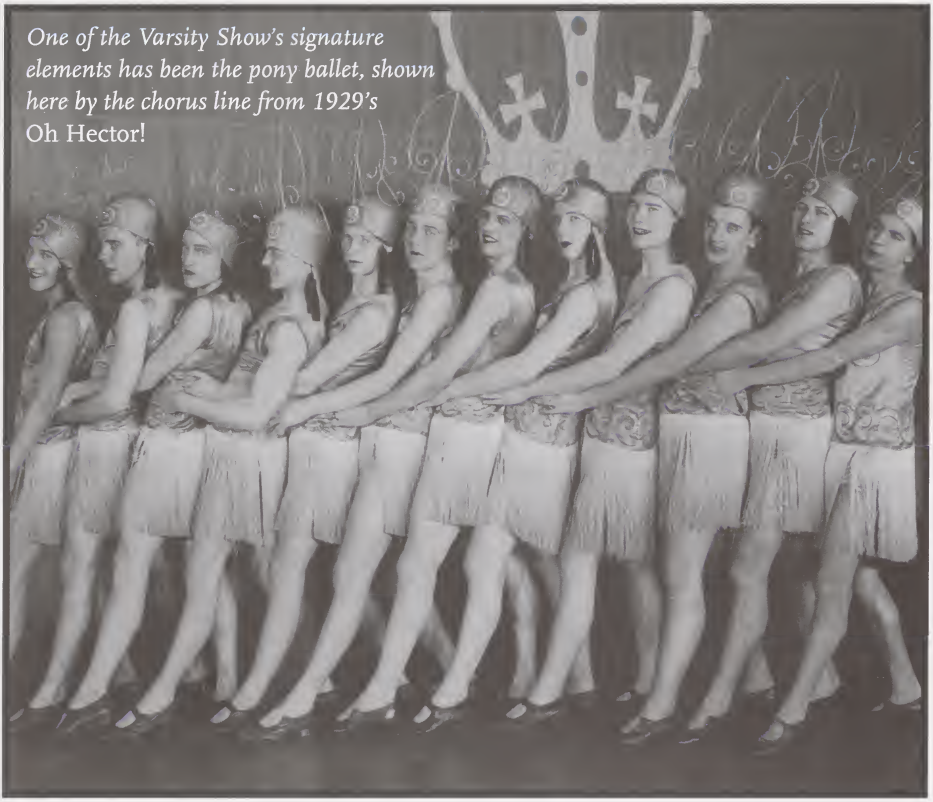


Costume designer Isabella Rosner '14 measures the head of actor Alex Donnelly '14 in preparation for V120.

While some participants certainly continue to reap the benefits of belonging to the Varsity Show family long after they have graduated, for most, the rewards are much more immediate. Says Silverberg, "It is a very cool way to participate in a Columbia tradition and to be involved in something that the entire student body is interested in and everyone is going to have an opinion about."

The 120th Varsity Show is scheduled for Friday, May 2–Sunday, May 4 in Roone Arledge Auditorium. For more information, visit thevarsityshow.com. To watch past productions, go to Web Extras at college.columbia.edu/cct.

Nathalie Alonso '08, *from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball's official Spanish language website. She writes "Student Spotlight" for* CCT.



One of the Varsity Show's signature elements has been the pony ballet, shown here by the chorus line from 1929's Oh Hector!

The Varsity Show Through the Years

A look back at Columbia's longest running theatrical tradition in pictures, programs and posters

ALL IMAGES COURTESY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

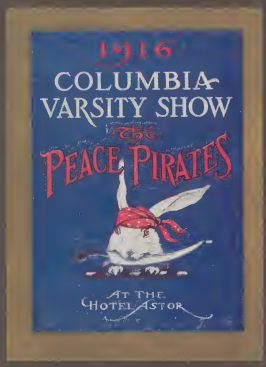


Above, Beatrice Kay, a performer from Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe supper club, seems unsure what to make of Alexander McAllister '40 of 1939's Fair Enough. *Below, the full cast on stage at the Hotel Astor.*

PHOTOS: ABOVE, ANDREW COSTIKYAN '43; BELOW, DELAR ROCKEFELLER CENTER















Top, rehearsing the pony ballet on Low Plaza for 1940's Life Begins in '40. *Bottom left, getting a posture lesson during rehearsals. Bottom right, a pony ballet member is flanked by British soldiers in 1954's* Sky's the Limit.

PHOTOS: TOP, WILD WORLD PHOTOS, INC.; BOTTOM LEFT, JACK M. LEWIS; BOTTOM RIGHT, MARTIN MOLLOY '55, '60 GSAS



Above, cast members of 1948's Streets of New York *receive some dance instruction. Below, a chorus girl with a Low Library replica on her head cavorts with the Columbia lion in 1980's* Fly With Me.

PHOTOS: ABOVE, MANNY WARMAN; BELOW, ADRIAN BRYAN-BROWN











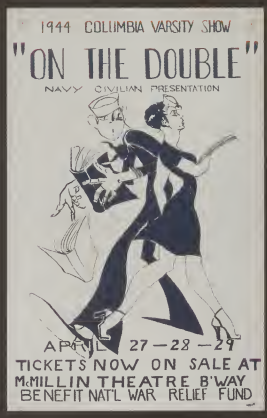
The cast of 1980's Fly With Me, *a revival of 1920's show, with music by Richard Rodgers '23*

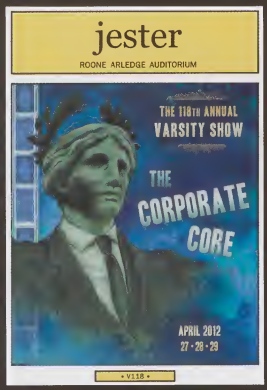
PHOTO: ADRIAN BRYAN-BROWN



and lyrics by Lorenz Hart (Class of 1918J).









Brian Yorkey '93 (left) and Tom Kitt '96, who won Pulitzer and Tony Awards for *Next to Normal,* share a laugh as they prepare their latest show, *If/Then,* for Broadway.
PHOTO: MATTHEW MURPHY

The Marriage of True Minds

A freewheeling conversation with the Broadway team of Tom Kitt '96 and Brian Yorkey '93

By Jamie Katz '72, '80 Business

Gilbert and Sullivan. George and Ira Gershwin. Rodgers and Hammerstein. Dorothy Fields and anybody. Let's not forget Mozart and Lorenzo Da Ponte, who wrote the libretto for *Don Giovanni* and, much later, became Columbia's first professor of Italian.

It's too soon to say whether the creative partnership of Tom Kitt '96 (music) and Brian Yorkey '93 (book and lyrics) will someday join that pantheon. But they're off to a good start, having won the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Drama for their first Broadway collaboration, *Next to Normal*, which was also nominated for 11 Tony Awards and won three. This was no happy-times stage show: It explored the searing anguish of a suburban American family with a manic-depressive mother at its center. Ben Brantley of *The New York Times* called it "a brave, breathtaking musical," writing, "No show on Broadway right now makes as direct a grab for the heart — or wrings it as thoroughly — as *Next to Normal* does."

Angels at Columbia: Centennial Approaches, the 1994 Varsity Show, was Kitt and Yorkey's first collaboration on a musical. The experience played a pivotal role in their lives and careers. They were introduced by Rita Pietropinto-Kitt '93, '96 Arts; it was not the only partnership forged among them — Kitt and Pietropinto-Kitt, an actress and drama teacher at the Marymount School and Barnard, were married in 2000 and now have three children. "I often say that I met both of my spouses at Columbia," Kitt says.

Born on Long Island, Kitt was raised in Armonk, N.Y. His many Broadway credits include Green Day's *American Idiot* (which won a Tony Award for Best Musical), *High Fidelity*, *Debbie Does Dallas*, *Urban Cowboy* and *13;* he also has written music for the Public Theater's New York Shakespeare Festival and TV's *Sesame Street* and *Dawson's Creek*.

Yorkey was born in Omaha and raised there and in Issaquah, Wash., about 20 miles east of Seattle. An alumnus of the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop, he was associate artistic director for seven years at Village Theatre in Issaquah and Everett, Wash., one of the nation's leading incubators of musicals. Yorkey wrote the book for Sting's *The Last Ship*, which opens on Broadway later this year, and has three screenplays in development. His other theater credits include *Making Tracks*, the musical adaptation of Ang Lee's *The Wedding Banquet*, and the country musical *Play It By Heart*.

The composer and lyricist took time out to speak with *CCT* as they prepared for the Broadway premiere of their latest musical, *If/Then*, another psychological work of feeling and wit, examining the different paths life can take based on a single decision. The lead character, a 40-year-old professional woman in New York, is played by the Tony Award–winning actress/singer Idina Menzel (*Rent* and *Wicked*); the director is Michael Greif (*Rent*), who also directed *Next to Normal*.

If/Then resonates personally for both Kitt and Yorkey. "Every day we make choices," Kitt says. "Sometimes they're just small choices and sometimes they're bigger ones. But we often wonder about the power of those choices and whether our life would have turned out the way it did. Are we meant for something? If you find that person whom you love, are you meant to find that person no matter what road you take? What if I hadn't gone to Columbia?" Yorkey agrees. "If we look back to where we met, there was an awful lot of chance involved," he says. "What if Tom had not been home when Rita knocked on his door?"

If/Then opens at the Richard Rodgers Theater on Sunday, March 30.

Herewith are edited excerpts of the conversation.

CCT: *You have joined a distinguished line of collaborators in the performing arts — Rodgers and Hart, Nureyev and Fonteyn, Bialystock and Bloom.* [laughter] *When did you realize that your creative partnership was something special?*

Yorkey: Telling our story, it may seem like we went running to each other in a field full of pianos. But when I met Tom at The West End over a pitcher of beer, I thought he was sort of a stupid frat boy sitting there with his backward baseball cap. My first instinct was to not like him. But then Tom and I started to write songs together. I wrote some lyrics to the first song that he wrote for the Varsity Show. And it was pretty solid. Then we wrote a song for a dance number called "The College Walk." It's kind of a classic show tune in structure. I remember watching that song be rehearsed and watching the choreographer put the dance to it, and realizing that Tom and I had done something special. And it hadn't felt effortful. It had felt as natural as breathing. That was the moment when I knew that we had something kind of remarkable. It's hard to explain exactly what that is. But you know it.

Kitt: I was very intimidated by Brian at first, especially because the Varsity Show people were rock stars on campus. It was kind of like hanging out with the cast of Saturday Night Live.

Kitt: I was very intimidated by Brian at first, especially because the Varsity Show people were rock stars on campus. It was kind of like hanging out with the cast of *Saturday Night Live*. They were all dynamic, they all were comfortable with each other. So when I was a lowly freshman going to that table, sharing a pitcher of beer, I was intimidated. But when Brian and I began working together, I felt very quickly like I belonged, and I was just blown away by his intelligence, by his wit. For the whole semester that we wrote our first show together, I was obsessed with what we were doing. It lived in my head every day. I would go into class and constantly think of new ideas. Up to that point I hadn't written with anyone else and I hadn't written for the musical theater. Yet it came so easily to me, working with Brian. I just always felt inspired, and I immediately knew that it was something that I cared deeply about and wanted to pursue. The experience of writing with Brian, the satisfaction that those songs gave us, felt as important as anything I was doing. So I had to believe that it was something that I wanted to preserve and protect.

CCT: *Now that you've been working together for some 20 years, what would you say makes your collaboration work so well? What is its genius?*

Kitt: I think we trust each other, and I think we both bring out really wonderful things in each other. I know that Brian's lyrics and ideas always challenge me and keep me honest in the most wonderful way. There are times where I wouldn't necessarily go to a certain place but for his lyrics that push me in new directions. Brian just looks at the world in a way that I find so beautiful and surprising, and yet familiar, because it's a way that I want to look at the world and the way I want to write about the world. And when I do write about it, I trust him completely, both good and bad. Sometimes with any marriage, with any collaboration, there will be hard moments where you're not completely on the same page or one person is challenging the other. But those challenges always bring out the best and we always come at it from a stronger place afterward.

Yorkey: For my part — well, first of all I was realizing, Tom, that you shouldn't expect to find your two spouses in the Varsity Show, and then expect a sort of even-keeled life after that. [*laughter*] That said, and this sounds very basic, but I love Tom's music. The music that Tom writes touches me at a very deep level, emotionally. It's full of meaning, and it's full of feeling, and it's probing, and questioning, and romantic and yearning, and all those things that Tom is himself. The ability to truly put yourself into your writing, I think, is what makes a great writer. And Tom's music embodies him in a way that continues to knock me flat all the time, and to make me want to dig deep, and really be truthful, and be honest, and emotional, and not just try to be clever. Really to try to write something that matters and that is personal to me and to the two of us. And I think that we do that to each other.

I also think part of the reason we've managed to survive this long, and not always through good times, is that we balance each other out well. We have very different but compatible ways of looking at the world. We also are pretty good at giving each other a ribbing, keeping each other honest and not letting either person tip too far into the places that writers like to go, which include self-pity and resentment and anger and those things. They're a part of life, but we're I think pretty good at pulling each other back from the brink. We had an assistant on *Next To Normal* who observed that we have a talent of never both being in a bad mood at the same time. [*laughter*] I think that's pretty true, and it has stood us in good stead.

Yorkey: Tom's music embodies him in a way that continues to knock me flat all the time, and to make me want to dig deep, and really be truthful, and be honest, and emotional, and not just try to be clever.



(Left to right) Kitt, Yorkey, Rita Pietropinto-Kitt '93, '96 Arts and Laura Pietropinto '00 attend a pre-reception on the night of the 2009 Tony Awards. *Next to Normal* won three, including best original score.

CCT: *That talent helps keep a lot of marriages alive, too.*

Yorkey: It's very much a marriage. We understand that whatever individual bumps or hills or valleys the road may have, we're in it for the long haul. And the most important thing is to just keep moving forward.

CCT: *The Varsity Show played such a crucial role in both of your lives. Were you aware of it before you applied to the College?*

Yorkey: One of the reasons that I went to Columbia was the writers who had been there before me. And obviously, being a pretentious high school senior, Kerouac ['44] and Ginsberg ['48] were high on that list. But also being a musical theater kid, I knew that that's where Rodgers ['23] and Hart [1918J] wrote their first stuff together, and Rodgers and Hammerstein [1916] met. It just seemed like Columbia was the place where musicals were made. I actually didn't know about the Varsity Show, but I did know about that tradition. That it drew me to Columbia in the first place, and played such a role in how my life played out, is kind of incredible to me.

Kitt: I didn't know about the Varsity Show before I came to Columbia. My dream then was to be a singer-songwriter in the mold of Billy Joel and Paul Simon and James Taylor and Elton John and Bruce Springsteen, to name all my heroes. It wasn't until I worked on the Varsity Show that I realized how much I wanted to pursue composing for the musical theater. And as I started to realize the history of the show, it became even more exciting that I was involved in a show that counted, as Brian said, Rodgers and Hart, Rodgers and Hammerstein, Terrence McNally ['60], Jeanine Tesori ['83 Barnard] as alumni. So I became really aware of the rich history of the show. And again, it's really the reason that I started writing for the theater.

CCT: *Apart from the Varsity Show, what had the greatest impact on you at Columbia?*

Kitt: I was a bit of a mess when I got to Columbia. I procrastinated a lot. I didn't have a great work ethic. I think what I really got out of Columbia aside from the wonderful education was just the people who were there. Everybody was striving for something and was in their own way doing important things. And that really rubbed off on me.

Yorkey: I think that I chose Columbia in part because it didn't have a theater major at the time. I knew somehow — and I'm

pretty amazed that I knew this at 18 — but I knew that I needed to study everything *but* theater. That if I really was meant to do theater, I'd find a way to do it anyway. But if I had gone to study theater, that might be all I ever studied, and I needed to become a more well-rounded person than that. And that's exactly what happened at Columbia — though I think that I took the Core Curriculum maybe not as seriously as I wish I had. I'd like to go back and take those classes again.

CCT: *Quite a number of alumni feel that way.*

Yorkey: That's good to hear. At the same time I got a lot out of the Core, an awful lot. It really was about becoming a citizen of the world and a person who has a life of the mind of some sort. I double majored in English and religion, which I think most people might think of as two of the least job-specific majors you could pick. But I actually ended up in a job where I use both of those majors every day. And that's pretty remarkable. The things I'm able to do in my work, I know are very much a part of the education that I got in the classroom and outside of it at Columbia.

Kitt: It's the same for me, and I was an economics major. It's really a people science. You're studying people's choices and tastes and what they value. Learning about that science was very important for me. I also took a number of really wonderful music classes that opened me up and certainly brought me back to classical music. I was a classically trained pianist from the age of 4, but I hadn't been serious about studying it again. I took [the Anne Parsons Bender Professor of Music] Elaine Sisman's Beethoven and Mozart classes. I'll never forget the day I walked in and she put the *Requiem* on — it had such an impact on me. And I just wanted to devour everything that he wrote.

CCT: *In the greatest Broadway musicals, and in opera for that matter, there is a beautiful integration of the music and the lyrics and the story — they are braided almost seamlessly. Is that an important goal for you? And how is it achieved?*

Yorkey: I think it's absolutely a goal. The music and the songs need to serve the story, and I think that the integration of words and music is the thing that Tom and I strive for most. There are three things that have really made it possible, for instance, on *Next to Normal*, for us to achieve that, to whatever extent we did. The first is that we're not precious about material. If something doesn't work as well as it can, we'll write something else until we find the thing that really does work. The second factor is that we keep going — we don't stop and say, "That's good enough." We keep going until we get the best thing we possibly can, until we've exhausted every option that we can think of. And the third thing is we have people like Michael Greif, our director, and David Stone, our producer, who really hold us to a standard of integration and a standard of making the music and the text a seamless whole, and help us figure out how to do that — certainly with *Next to Normal* and with the new show, *If/Then*. Michael's sense of how to tell a story and how to keep what's essential and cut away everything else continues to teach us lessons.



Varsity Show alumni (left to right) Yorkey; Noah Cornman '96; Matt Eddy '94; Joy Gorman '96 Barnard; Rita Pietropinto-Kitt '93, '96 Arts; Laura Pietropinto '00; and Kitt celebrate at the after-party following the Broadway opening of *Next to Normal*.

Kitt: Brian and I still get such a rush out of just hearing someone sing a song that we came up with, especially when you have the Idina Menzels and Alice Ripleys and Anthony Rapps and La Chanzes of the world singing those songs, it's a pinch-me kind of feeling.

Kitt: The other thing I want to add is that Brian is actually a wonderful musician. He's very knowledgeable. And even though he may not want to sing, he writes lyrics with a very strong musical sense. So when I get lyrics from him, most times they kind of just sing off the page. He structures them in a way that it's very rewarding to write music for those lyrics. If things aren't clicking, he always has wonderful things to say musically about other ways to go. And even though I don't write lyrics, I think my knowledge of lyrics and scanning and where rhymes want to go also helps serve what we're doing. So I think the great thing about our collaboration is that even though we trust each other in our departments, we have real knowledge of what the other person is doing, so we can write work that will hopefully arrive at the other person's doorstop feeling fully formed and feeling like you can be intuitive and write without much complication.

CCT: *How powerful is it for you when all that work culminates in an actual production, where all of it is sung and acted and lit and danced?*

Yorkey: I really marvel at it every day of a rehearsal process or a tech process. I'm amazed that people are speaking lines that I wrote and singing songs that I wrote the words to. It never fails to blow me away. Especially with some of the people we get to work with, it's astounding and incredibly humbling. It never gets old.

Kitt: I think that Brian and I still get such a rush out of just hearing someone sing a song that we came up with it. And especially when you have the Idina Menzels and Alice Ripleys and Anthony Rapps and La Chanzes of the world singing those songs, it's a pinch-me kind of feeling.

Yorkey: One example: We had struggled to write a song for a very emotional and important part of *If/Then*, late in the show. It's called "Always Starting Over." We had gone back and forth on it and had not agreed and just weren't having a good time writing it. Finally Tom went away and just wrote something really full of feeling, and sent it to me. I poured out every last ounce of emotion I had into the lyric. It really felt like a last gasp for us. We brought it into rehearsal and we were both sort of exhausted and just a little bit down. And Idina Menzel learned it and sang it. I think we both started to cry because what she did with it was so amazing.

Yorkey: We balance each other well. We have very different but compatible ways of looking at the world. We also are pretty good at giving each other a ribbing, keeping each other honest.

CCT: *Let's talk about your winning the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 2010. How did that go down, for you?*

Kitt: I'll never forget it. I was in tech for *American Idiot* on Broadway — I was the music supervisor and I did the orchestrations and arrangements — and I was sitting in the audience just talking with Tom Hulce, the show's producer. My phone rang and it was David Stone, who informed me of the news. I walked up the aisle and down the aisle of the St. James Theater going, "No f---ing way! No f---ing way!" [*laughter*] Then it was announced on the "God mike" and the whole cast came up and hugged me. It was a really, really emotional, wonderful moment, and unexpected. I don't think that was even in our universe, the idea that something like that could happen. It felt like such a privilege because it's an award for writing. That was so clear when we went to the luncheon and sat with journalists and writers of fiction and nonfiction. I felt a little bit like, "What am I doing here?" People are writing these important articles about this and that. I felt privileged to be included in that company.



Yorkey and Kitt, at the Off-Broadway opening of *Next to Normal* at the Second Stage Theatre in 2008, say they don't settle for "good enough" but "keep going until we get the best thing we possibly can."

Yorkey: My story's a little bit less romantic. I had just gotten back from a trip overseas and was still sort of jetlagged. And our publicist, Tom D'Ambrosio, called me and said, "You guys are in the mix for the Pulitzer, and so if it happens, we're going to have to jump right into some interviews. Can you come down to the office?" And I said, "Well, I would need to take a shower." "Well," he said, "can you shower now just in case?" So I said, "Yes, I'll shower now, Tom." But then I got off the phone with him and I thought, "I don't want to shower and be sitting around here all clean and have nothing happen, 'cause then I'll be all clean and sad." So I didn't actually shower. And David Stone called and I picked up the phone and he said, "Is this Pulitzer Prize-winner Brian Yorkey?" And the first thing I thought was, "Oh man, I should've showered." [*laughter*] I don't know if Tom ever knew that, because I did shower very quickly and I made it to the office in pretty good time!

CCT: *Once lightning struck, how did your life change?*

Yorkey: I think a Pulitzer is not a prize for mortals. Tom and I certainly dreamed of winning a Tony, as I think anyone who writes for musical theater does. But no one dreams of winning a Pulitzer because it just seems like something that happens to gods like Edward Albee and August Wilson, not to people like us. It certainly felt like a bolt out of the blue. The combination of the Pulitzer and the fact that *Next to Normal* was a hit on Broadway changed our lives probably forever. You do sort of realize that you could do not one more damn thing and you'll still be a Pulitzer Prize winner! [*laughter*] Not that that's my plan.

CCT: *Anything you'd like to add?*

Yorkey: One thing I wanted to say — I don't know if I can put this into words, ironically — but the thing that was great about Columbia, which made the Varsity Show possible, and made so many things possible, and really sort of helped me form my outlook as a human being, is that Columbia never takes itself too seriously. Or at least it didn't in my time. And if anyone did, there would always be someone there to take them down a peg. No one at Columbia is really all that comfortable with orthodoxy or with authority. It makes for a campus that can be kind of difficult to manage sometimes, but it also makes for really, really sharp and funny and smart and skeptical individuals who look at the world and want to question the received wisdom and want to shake up the foundations of the establishment a little bit. There's a long, long history of that. I hope and believe it's still alive there — absorbing that ethos and looking at the world in a smart and generous way, but also a way that's questioning and wants to find out the truth and wants to upend the apple cart a little bit. That's something that feels to me unique to Columbia and very much an important part of who I am and what I get to do today.

Former CCT *Editor* **Jamie Katz '72, '80 Business** *has held senior editorial positions at* People *and* Vibe, *and now writes for* Smithsonian *magazine and other publications.*

Bringing Lit Hum to Life



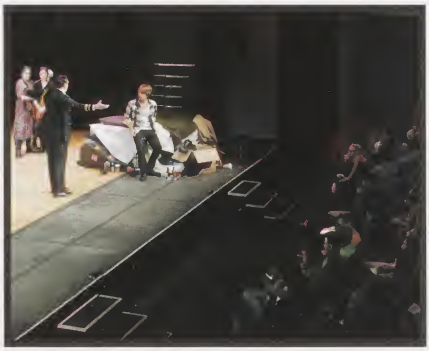




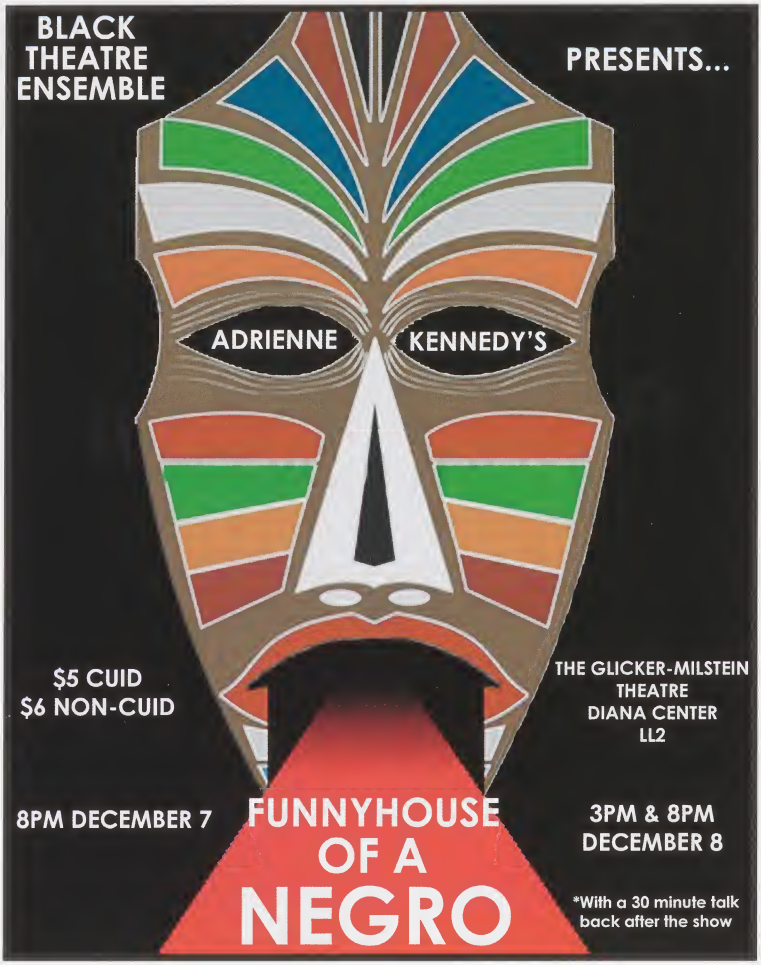


Madness, intrigue, and questions of justice and revenge came to Miller Theatre in November with a performance of Euripides' *Orestes*. Graduate students from the School of the Arts' Theater Division staged the production specifically for Literature Humanities students and instructors; they have done so each year, albeit with different plays, since 2008. "This collaboration between the Core Curriculum and the School of the Arts has been tremendously fruitful," says Roosevelt Montás '95, '04 GSAS, director of the Center for the Core Curriculum and associate dean of academic affairs. "While theater students get support to stage a play before a large audience, Lit Hum students can experience the full dramatic power of a text they have only encountered on the page. Experiencing the play as it unfolds in real time is often a revelation for students."





PHOTOS: CHAR SMULLYAN



Theater District

Columbia's many theater groups give students a chance to watch, and perform, everything from Shakespeare to opera to student-written plays

By Shira Boss '93, '97J, '98 SIPA

The Varsity Show isn't the only ticket on campus. Student theater groups are flourishing and perform regularly, from Shakespeare to musicals to student-written works. There are opportunities for students of every theatrical skill level and inclination, and the shows can pack venues from Lerner's intimate Austin E. Quigley Black Box Theatre to its huge Roone Arledge Auditorium.

The following round-up offers an introduction to 10 groups that can be seen around campus. All also belong to the Columbia University Performing Arts League (columbia.edu/cu/cupal), an umbrella organization that encourages the sharing of resources and expertise and serves as an advisory board for new groups. CUPAL also sponsors one special project per semester — for example, a multimedia event, fundraiser, or theatrical, music or dance performance — as well as a spring showcase of student work that includes selections from the most successful or highly anticipated productions of the academic year. This year's showcase was scheduled for March 8.

Black Theatre Ensemble

MISSION: "We seek to promote minority playwrights and actors, thus giving students of color on campus, and in NYC, an outlet for creative expression that was previously void."

FOUNDED: 2002

MEMBERSHIP: Open to everyone at Columbia, with the occasional non-Columbia cast member; average 10–12 participants, about 80% College

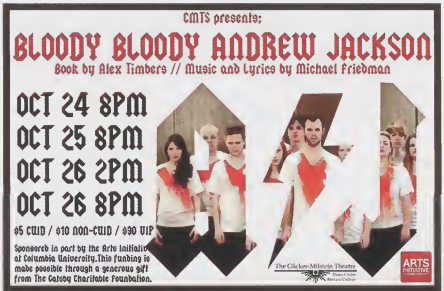
PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE: One show per semester; an annual Spring Student-Written One-Acts Festival; this spring, a second show in collaboration with Columbia Musical Theatre Society

RECENT PRODUCTIONS: *Funnyhouse of a Negro, Bulrusher, Fucking A*

NOTEWORTHY ALUMNI: Playwright Katori Hall '03

WEBSITE: "Black Theatre Ensemble" on Facebook

CURTAIN CALL: "Something I like to stress to those inquiring about BTE is that we are a group that is dedicated to creating community," says president Bintu Conteh '14. "Since I have been a member of this organization (since my freshman year), I have always felt like I was part of a beautiful, crazy, loving family. And I am sure anyone who does at least one show with us will feel the same way."



Columbia Musical Theatre Society

MISSION: "We pride ourselves on producing original takes on musical revivals. We strive for these types of productions and not just carbon copies of Broadway shows/revivals."

FOUNDED: 2000

MEMBERSHIP: 100–150 participants, about 60% College

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE: Average of two musicals per semester and a special project

RECENT PRODUCTIONS: *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson, Carousel, The Rocky Horror Picture Show*

NOTEWORTHY ALUMNI: Nina Pedrad '11, currently a writer for the FOX show *New Girl*

WEBSITE: "CMTS" on Facebook

CURTAIN CALL: "We attempt to include as many people as possible to expand our musical theater community and provide opportunities for anyone excited to perform musical theater," says v.p. Sam Mickel '14. "Our special projects have included musical theater karaoke nights, miscasts (where students sing songs from roles/shows they would never be cast in) and cabarets (students sign up and choose a song to sing) for students."

Columbia University Players

MISSION: "The performance of straight plays, providing the opportunity for students to propose and present nearly any theatrical work that is non-musical and non-Shakespeare."

FOUNDED: 1906 (as Barnard College Musical Theatre)

MEMBERSHIP: 40–50 participants per semester, about 25% College

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE: Four per year

RECENT PRODUCTIONS: *Playgrounds, The Maids*

NOTEWORTHY ALUMNI: Cody Holliday Haefner '12, Thomas Kapusta '12 and Brian LaPerche '12 founded The Brewing Dept., a theatrical collective in NYC, along with three Barnard alumnae

WEBSITE: "CU Players" on Facebook

CURTAIN CALL: "CU Players offers students with relatively little theater background the chance to dive into the world



of theater here at Columbia," says treasurer Danitra Campbell '15. "Whereas some of the other groups can be rather intimidating for newcomers, CUP manages to feel welcoming."

King's Crown Shakespeare Troupe

MISSION: "King's Crown Shakespeare Troupe exists to bring outstanding free theater to the Columbia Community and to create an awesome experience for everyone involved."

FOUNDED: 1995

MEMBERSHIP: Approximately 50 participants per year; roughly 60% College

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE: Generally two shows in the fall semester (though not necessarily Shakespeare, they can be anything except musical theater). Large-scale show spring semester (always Shakespeare, outdoors and staged at multiple locations around campus) and usually also a smaller production.

RECENT PRODUCTIONS: *Cymbeline; The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged); Henry IV, Part 2*

NOTEWORTHY ALUMNI: Ezra Koenig '06 and Rostam Batmanglij '06 form half of the band Vampire Weekend

WEBSITE: kcstumbles.tumblr.com and "King's Crown Shakespeare Troupe" on Facebook

CURTAIN CALL: All performances are free; every Columbia student who auditions for the spring show is cast.

Latenite Theatre

MISSION: "We have a simple purpose: to offer our playwrights the opportunity to see their work on stage, giving them a freedom to experiment, to take artistic risks, and above all, to have fun in a non-competitive environment."

FOUNDED: 1995, "by a group of theater and English majors who wanted to produce their own original works," says Hannah Ceja '14 Barnard, co-president with Taha Wiheba '16. "These works were to be performed at 11 p.m., long after other events on campus had ended and prudent artistic sensibilities have gone to bed for the night — hence the name Latenite Theatre."

MEMBERSHIP: About 45 participants per semester

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE: One anthology of student-written, one-act plays per semester

RECENT PRODUCTIONS: *Amor Escandaloso* by Noel Gutierrez-Morfin '15, *The Hanukkah Elf* by Rachel Chung '15E, *Love, Approaching the Station* by Madison Seely '16, *Nick at Nite* by Emilia Lirman '16, *Goldfish* by James Rodrigues '14

WEBSITE: Latenitetheatre.com and "Latenite Theatre" on Facebook

CURTAIN CALL: "We have four performances, the last being a prank show, where, really, anything could happen," Ceja says. "The actors and/or directors come up with various ways to prank their respective shows, ranging from adding a few props or extra jokes, to altering an entire script."

The Mechanicals

MISSION: "We seek to provide the Barnard/Columbia community with a place for students to develop their acting skills in a collaborative, low-pressure peer workshop environment. We are not professionals, nor are we teachers — we are simply a group of students passionate about acting, and dedicated to helping each other improve."

FOUNDED: 2014

MEMBERSHIP: Just launched in spring semester; about 50 people have expressed interest

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE: No performances; the group is



an acting workshop, with meetings every other Sunday

WEBSITE: thecumechanicals.wordpress.com

CURTAIN CALL: "The Mechanicals is a way to open up the theater community. It can be unbelievably rewarding to do theater but also incredibly daunting," says co-founder Maddie Ghillany-Lehar '16. "The Mechanicals aims to isolate acting from the stress of performance so you can really focus on the fun stuff — that is, trying to form meaningful, believable connections onstage."

New Opera Workshop

MISSION: "Our goal is both to provide opportunities to classical singers on campus and to push the frontiers of opera by generating new works and engaging new audiences. We hope to rekindle the legacy of Columbia's Opera Workshop, the campus opera company that from 1941–58 commissioned and performed groundbreaking new opera."

FOUNDED: 2013

MEMBERSHIP: Spring 2014 production has 38 participants, about 50% College

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE: One production per semester

RECENT PRODUCTIONS: *Opera Untapped*, featuring scenes from Mozart, Bizet, Gilbert and Sullivan, and more

WEBSITE: "Columbia University New Opera Workshop" on Facebook

CURTAIN CALL: "Many audience members have come to us, telling us they've never seen opera and were pleasantly surprised," says co-founder and financial officer Hannah Rose Gorman '16. "I think the fun, collaborative nature of this project shines through in performances, and makes the art form approachable to new audiences."

NOMADS

MISSION: "NOMADS (New and Original Material Authored and Directed by Students) gives a home to the creation of unique, experimental and provocative original work by artists from across the Columbia University community. Combining full-scale theatrical projects with multi-media installations, dance, music, playwriting workshops and 'live artwork,' we provide a safe, professional and exciting space where any member of our community can develop their creative ideas — however wild, wacky or wondrous — from page to stage (or any other venue we can find!)."

FOUNDED: 2003

MEMBERSHIP: Around 60 participants per semester

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE: One student-written, full-length play per year, usually in the Fall semester; an annual festival of student work each spring; Word Play, an annual writer's workshop, where undergraduate playwrights are mentored by a School of the Arts student and that culminates in a staged reading of their work.

RECENT PRODUCTIONS: *The Gift* by Anika Benkov '16; *Grieving for Fish* by Elyse Pitock '15 Barnard

WEBSITE: "NOMADS Columbia" on Facebook

CURTAIN CALL: Some productions have been presented off-campus at Theatre Row, Cherry Lane Theatre and the New York International Fringe Festival.

V-Day at Barnard College of Columbia University

MISSION: "V-Day is a global activist movement to end violence against women and girls. We seek to enlighten and inspire our community through performances of *The Vagina Monologues* as well as to raise money for existing anti-violence organizations."

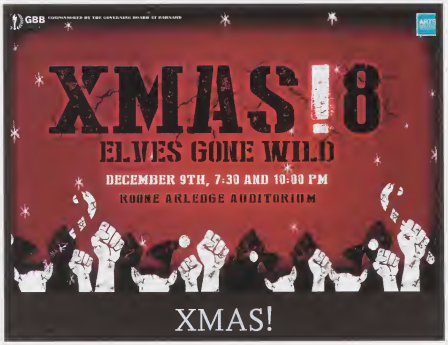
FOUNDED: Late 1990s

MEMBERSHIP: Around 35, about 30% College

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE: Up to three performances of *The Vagina Monologues* in February / March

WEBSITE: "Columbia University V-Day" on Facebook

CURTAIN CALL: "The work done by V-Day at Barnard College of Columbia University extends beyond the campus gates," says producer Anita Warner '14 Barnard. "Our group donates 100 percent of the proceeds from *The Vagina Monologues* to NYC-based organizations working to end violence against women and girls."



MISSION: "To create an original student-written, satirical musical, parodying the holiday season. XMAS! is for everyone!"

FOUNDED: 2006

MEMBERSHIP: 70 cast and crew in the December 2013 show, about 50% College

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE: Two performances annually, at holiday time

RECENT PRODUCTIONS: *XMAS!8: Elves Gone Wild*

WEBSITE: "XMAS8" on Facebook

CURTAIN CALL: "In its eight years, *XMAS!* has grown from a variety show in a residential hall lounge to a full-fledged musical in Roone Arledge Auditorium," says co-producer Jeremy Stern '15. "As everything in *XMAS!* — from the scripts to the set, from the score to the posters — is created by students, *XMAS!* is truly a collaborative labor of love."

Shira Boss '93, '97J, '98 SIPA *is an author and contributing writer to* CCT. *Her last feature was "Global Columbia," in the Winter 2013–14 issue.*

[COLUMBIA FORUM]

Dr. Arnold A. Hutschnecker in Paradise



PHOTO: JOAN MARCUS

Tony Kushner '78, a playwright and screenwriter, is the author of Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes, Homebody/Kabul *and* Caroline, or Change, *among other major theatrical works. Two of his screenplays, for Steven Spielberg's* Munich *and* Lincoln, *have been nominated for Academy Awards. He has won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama (1993), two Tonys (1993 and 1994), an Emmy (2004) and the 2012 National Medal of Arts, among other honors, and received numerous nominations.*

The play that follows, Dr. Arnold A. Hutschnecker in Paradise, *is excerpted from a collection of short works,* Tiny Kushner: Five One-Act Plays, *to be published by Theatre Communications Group later this year. The real Dr. Hutschnecker, who died in 2000 at 102, was President Nixon's psychiatrist for many years.*

Rose Kernochan '82 Barnard

The setting is a beautiful room in a pre-war, Upper West Side-type apartment building in Paradise: rococo sculpted plaster ceiling, a small chandelier at its center, a handsome marble fireplace with Egyptian and Greek tchotchkes on the mantlepiece, books in oak bookcases and an old Turkish carpet covering a worn leather divan. This is the office for the psychoanalytic practice of Metatron, the Recording Angel, a vast fiery being with a million eyes.

Metatron is seated in an Eames chair at the head of the carpet-covered divan. Sitting, not lying on the couch — this is a supervisory session — is Dr. Arnold Hutschnecker, best-known during his lifetime as the psychotherapist of Richard Milhous Nixon.

Dr. Hutschnecker died in 2000. The play takes place the year after that.

METATRON: And how are we feeling this morning, Arnold? In saying "morning" I am of course lapsing into poesy, since Time doesn't exist in Paradise.

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: I feel lousy, frankly. I stayed up all night watching *The Sopranos* on DVD.

METATRON: *Again?!* Again with *The Sopranos?*

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: I know, I know, I can't stop myself, I am obviously attempting some sort of negotiation: will the sexy lady analyst cure the gangster sociopath with narcissistic tendencies? It's that episode with the nympholeptic soccer coach, you know, Tony *resists* the impulse to whack the guy, her treatment is working! Oh, it's so tantalizing, so excruciating! She comes so close! He is borderline, not unreachable, I believe had Dr. Melfi employed Pavlovian techniques, it reminds me of the early '70s, right around the Cambodia bombings, I, I *(Silence).*

Oh forget it. It's not worth our time. My neck and my back are killing me.

METATRON: I would suggest that these pains are psychosomatic.

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: You always *say* that, but...

METATRON: In this case my proposal gains strength from the fact that you are dead and hence you have no body.

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: I'm not arguing, I spent my life contemplating the psychosomatic, especially as expressive of the narcissistic personality under duress. But my back *hurts.*

METATRON: Speaking of the narcissistic personality under duress, how is your patient doing?

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: Who? Milhous?

METATRON: Who else?

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: He told me in session yesterday that he doesn't believe he's dead.

METATRON: Interesting that you say discussing this television show — and I agree, it is superb, I watch it all the time, well I watch everything, I am the Recording Angel, it helps having a million eyes, I never have to channel surf — you say it isn't worth our "time", immediately after I have mentioned the fact that we are in Paradise and there is no Time here. Are *you* perhaps manifesting a denial of your *own* mortality, Arnold?

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: Oh please, I lived to 102, in *Connecticut,* for pity's sake don't you think I was ready to go?

My leg hurts, and don't say I've got no leg. Look, it's swollen. And I have hay fever, my face is throbbing, oddly I never had it in Connecticut, with all those trees.

METATRON: The neck and back pains, these were *his* presenting problems, were they not?

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: Yes.

METATRON: Let's talk about counter-transference, then, shall we?

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: Dear Lord, that scarcely describes it! When I was alive I saw him once, twice a year. Up here, it's five days a week up here, five days a week of Milhous, Milhous, Milhous!

METATRON: He still insists you call him —

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: Milhous. MMmmilhous. Muh Muh — It's so obvious I want to giggle, he wears his psyche on his sleeve, it's always been endearing to me, it saves me so much work, every day he comes in and he says these remarkable things … Well, you know, his mouth, oral sadistic, a few days ago he was thinking of changing his name to *M.*, just *M.*, the initial he dropped when he became President, and of course we know what he's really dropping or rather *who* he's really dropping or rather *trying*, still *trying* to drop after all this …

METATRON *(singing)*: "M is for the many things she gave me..."

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: That *mother*. Her dying words to him were "Richard don't give up. Don't let anyone tell you you are through." I am afraid he has taken this *literally* — he cannot die, mommy told him not to. He has to obey, he *must* preserve The Idealized Mother, the Saint, formed as he abreacts the depressed controlling woman who couldn't stop him crying, who breast-fed a cousin, a rival, when Dick — I mean *Milhous* — was six months, who abandoned him for mastoid surgery when he was 9 months, who gave birth to Donald right after that, more betrayal, more abandonment, who left him in his remarkably awkward adolescence for two years to go nurse the dying brother Harold, more abandonment, more guilt, well *is it any wonder?* What's amazing is he did as well as he did, forget the Plumbers and the tapes and the Checkers speech, what's amazing is he didn't blow up the planet. *(Silence.)*

I think perhaps in Hannah's obsessional, controlling personality may lie the explanation of the fact that Nixon was the last Republican President who believed in Regulation.

So she says "never die" and he can't afford to disbelieve her, ambivalent mommy — combined of course with his paranoia — and given her obsessive-compulsive personality, paranoia's a ... given. And his religiously-inflected grandiosity, well he always believed he was immortal —

METATRON: Masking of course a terrible fear of —

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: Of course! *(He sneezes)* AAAAAAHHHHH-*CHOOOOOOOO!*

METATRON: Gesundheit.

Metatron hands Dr. Hutschnecker a box of Kleenex.

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: Are you handing me this box of tissues because you are suggesting that I am resisting? That I should be needing them not to blow my nose but to wipe tears away? That I am *provoked* by my provocative patient rather than *moved* by him, I'm maybe taking *refuge* in anger to staunch the inner pain towards which this counter-transference is leading me: my *refugee* roots, the rejection I felt by my motherland in 1936 when I fled Berlin? An idealized mother, of course, Berlin, Germany, my real motherland was — blech — Austria.

METATRON: Why are you sneezing? You can't really have hay fever, here where neither pollen nor sinuses nor —

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: I know I know. *He* has a sinusitis flare-up every year, starting September 5 on the nose, as it were, and ending October 1. *His father died September 4, his mother September 30.* Ba da bing! Remarkable, as I said, I used to wonder if he'd read Freud.

METATRON: Have you ever asked him if he had?

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: He'd say yes, but he would probably be lying, he lies easier than breathing — *AAAAAAAAAHHHH*-CHOOOOOO.

Well of what President could that not be said? They all lie, he's just so transparent, endearing, like I said, at least he wasn't overdosing on Halcyon, like Bush the First, at least he didn't upchuck on the Japanese Prime Minister, at least he speaks in complete sentences, he doesn't have a language disorder like the scary little *stugatz* they got in the White House now, and anyway I wouldn't mention Freud to Milhous because it could trigger an association that could lead him to one of his anti-Semitic tirades, I have a lot of trouble with that, it really interferes with my …

Did you know that Bush and Nixon, I mean Milhous, are actually related? They're both cousins to the Stewart family, in Virginia, American aristocracy — One of the Stewarts, get this, Gladys I think her name was, she's the mother of —

METATRON: Yes, I know, she's the mother of Geraldine, the Queen of Albania. But speaking of associations, interesting that you bring up mothers just now, right after you —

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: Nixon and Bush are cousins of the fascist Queen of Albania! You can't make this up! But where was I?

METATRON: Associations, Freud, you —

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: Yeah, right, but Freud — Who has the time? I tried Pavlov, I tried using Pavlovian techniques to get him to stop the war. Conditioning, behaviorism, that's what works with these frenetic, overly-literal retentive guys, if Dr. Melfi would use Pavlov on… But he went out in the '60s, it got all touchy-feely and drugs were in and… *The Manchurian Candidate.* Have you ever seen it?

METATRON: Of course. Angela Lansbury, I'm a fan of —

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: Great film. I tried to get Milhous to forge an association: "Mom", "Quaker", "Peace." It never took. I used to think Kissinger was thwarting me. Now I see it was just the wrong series of associations. That *mother.*

Oh am I depressed. And I ache all over. Did I mention my leg? *Aaaah-Choo!* Five days a week! Watergate, Lincoln, that guy in the arena with the dust and the sweat and the blood, undaunted etcetera and so forth, you know, that Teddy Roosevelt quote? Jesus wept I could *sing* you the — *expletive deleted* — thing, he's been on my couch reciting it for fifty years, and NOW! Milhous! Full-blown stops-out week long psychoanalysis with Nixon! Are you sure this is *Paradise* and not the Other Place? AAAAAAAAHHHH-*Choooo!*

(He reaches for a Kleenex. He begins to weep copious tears.)

METATRON: His father was no picnic either.

DR. HUTSCHNECKER *(through his tears):* No, but *that mother.*

He moves me, of course he moves me. Poor Milhous! His mother couldn't stop him crying, when he was an infant, she didn't comfort him, she'd stand over his crib and say "He's not sad he's working on his lungpower, listen to that strong voice, *he's born to be a leader!*" Hence all the speechmaking, *Madonn'*!, the mortifying rambling speeches, all the, the graphomania — he's writing *more books,* did I mention that? — the sweaty upper lip, I mean talk about psychosomatic! — and what *were* all those words? *Tears! Weeping!* Milhous crying, crying for the mother, crying out for hard-hearted Hannah, crying out for mother love, for America, the Idealized Mother, which heard but would not love him and would only say "cry more, Milhous, cry more, you are …."

Dr. Hutschnecker blows his nose and wipes his eyes.

METATRON: Interesting, Arnold, what you said about Germany being *your* idealized mother, while your real mother, the bad mother — I believe you said "Blech" — is Austria, where you were born.

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: *Na, und?* I mean, *what's your point?*

METATRON: Well, Arnold, I mean, talk about transparent. German ideal, Austrian roots, whom else might you be describing?

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: I don't — Oh.

Him.

METATRON: Ja! *He* always referred to Germany as Vaterland, nicht Mutterland.

So perhaps here, the cause of your persistent refusal to consider the bad father introject inhabiting like a shadowy Cronus the cave of Milhous's unconscious.

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: Huh. That's god, I mean *good.*

METATRON: So we may perhaps want to ask, in our next session, when you first elected to treat this man, this powerful leader, grandiose, paranoiac, anti-Semitic, often described as having a Napolean Complex … Who is it you have *really* been trying to treat, Arnold, whose anti-social impulses and abuses of power are you really trying to control? Who is your real patient, Milhous … or someone else? The one who drove you from your motherland in 1936? Are you perhaps attempting to rewrite history through your treatment of a less-malelovent surrogate who …

Dr. Hutschnecker has fallen asleep, sitting up.

METATRON: Arnold?

Dr. Hutschnecker snores.

METATRON *(in a voice like seven thunders):* ARNOLD!

Dr. Hutschnecker jolts awake.

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: Whoah! I must've … dozed off. I got to get more sleep, I think, it's the — *expletive deleted — Sopranos,* I can't stop watching them. That mother!

METATRON: Oh yes, Nancy Marchand!

DR. HUTSCHNECKER: She's just the best! Isn't Nancy Marchand here now? I'd love to meet her. What an actress! What a role! That mother! David Chase is a genius, I can't wait for the new season!

METATRON: I've seen it. I've seen all the seasons. Of everything. Marvelous.

And I think our time is up.

END

DR. ARNOLD A. HUTSCHNECKER IN PARADISE by Tony Kushner '78 is part of a collection, TINY KUSHNER, to be published by TCG. Originally produced by the Guthrie Theater; Joe Dowling, artistic director.

Alumni News

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With last papers due and finals around the corner, Butler Library becomes a second home to many students in the late spring.
PHOTO: COLIN SULLIVAN '11

MESSAGE FROM CCAA PRESIDENT KYRA TIRANA BARRY '87

The Gift of Knowledge and Experience

As president of the Columbia College Alumni Association (CCAA), I strongly believe that one of the most valuable ways alumni can give back to the Columbia community is through the gift of knowledge and experience. Sharing this gift can be done through formal and informal mentorships between alumni and current students, which create direct and personal connections that benefit all for a lifetime.

One of our alumni groups, Columbia College Women, has raised the bar with the CCW Mentoring Program, co-chaired by Michelle Estilo Kaiser '87 and Selby Drummond '09. Now in its 20th year, the Mentoring Program pairs alumnae mentors from the Classes of 1987–2013 with rising junior and senior women using an algorithm based on mentor and mentee responses to a short questionnaire. The program's popularity has grown exponentially during the past two decades, going from 20 matches at its inception to a record-breaking 290-plus matches this year! This spike in interest is due in large part to the time and effort Michelle and Selby have devoted to improving the program, and also due to the demand by women to find connections to one another across generations.



Alumnae share their knowledge and experience with students via the CCW Mentoring Program and through events with speakers such as Sheena Wright '90, '94L (second from left), CEO of United Way of NYC. Joining Wright at a 2013 CCW brunch were (left to right) Constance Boozer '13, CCAA president Kyra Tirana Barry '87, Emily Dreibelbis '14 and Michelle Estilo Kaiser '87, '92 PH, '97 P&S.

PHOTO: REBECCA CASTILLO '94, '06J

CCW's student chair, Emily Dreibelbis '14, has experienced the benefits of CCW and the Mentoring Program firsthand. "I have been working with CCW since I was a sophomore," she says, "but now that I'm a senior, being part of CCW as well as the Mentoring Program has become even more important in helping me visualize [my future] and prepare myself for graduation. Whether it's job applications, interview skills or figuring out where to start apartment hunting in NYC, the fact that I have so many people to turn to is amazing."

Students and alumnae are drawn to CCW because they share many experiences not only during college but throughout their lives. Kaiser says, "I believe a large factor in CCW's rapid growth and popularity is the fact that women are called upon to continually reinvent themselves, especially if they choose to take a life partner and raise children."

Columbia College women represent a mix of backgrounds, professions, beliefs and cultures but something about Columbia called us each by name — and we answered. Before we completed our first year, we began collecting experiences and knowledge that we all now share — the perks and hardships of sharing a Carman bathroom with three roommates, the battle against the John Jay waffle station and the freshman 15, and the thrill of reading *Lysistrata* for the first time.

These shared experiences do not end after graduation; rather, they are only beginning, and they continue to grow in poignancy and gravity. For many, the idea of achieving life balance comes to the fore, whether that means managing career, family, hobbies, philanthropy and/or other interests. As a graduate of the first fully coeducational class of women at Columbia College, there were no footsteps for me to follow in. The experiences that we as College alumnae have had — the triumphs and the missteps — are incredibly valuable to pass on to future generations of Columbia College women.

Now in its 25th year, CCW is in a position to successfully expand its reach and benefit. As Kaiser describes it, "We are now in an opportune moment where the eldest of us are starting to feel the gift of time, with more independent children and/or comfortable careers. We have had several groups of alumnae in the glow of their 25th reunion looking to find a place in CCW, and we fully welcome their involvement in expanding intellectual, social and alum-to-alum offerings. CCW thrives on the diversity of Columbia's alumnae. We find a huge student demand for non-traditional as well as traditional careers and have found many women's lives are incredibly interesting and enriched by the panoply of their life experiences."

While CCW may be best known for its Mentoring Program, it has many other initiatives and its board is looking forward to capitalizing on this moment to broaden CCW's scope and boost involvement.

CCW's success is supported by Kim Diamon, who joined the alumni relations team last fall. Kim's efforts have been vital in enabling CCW's growth and expansion. She also works closely with Columbia College Young Alumni, another group that has strengthened in recent years.

I am also pleased to introduce three staff members who joined the Alumni Office this winter: Executive Director of College Alumni Relations and Events Jessica Green '05 Business, Associate Director of Alumni Relations Megan Cheever and Assistant Director of Alumni Relations Suzy Alpert. With the leadership and support of Senior Executive Director Bernice Tsai '96, I am confident that we will soon be able to offer alumni a much more robust array of ways to participate with CCAA and to pay back the gift of a Columbia experience to others.

Kyra

Bookshelf

The Wrights of Vermont: Searching for My Father's Family by *George T. Wright '45*. After his father's death, Wright digs into his father's genealogy to discover the stories and relationships of his father and his father's relatives (Wheatmark, $13.95).

Letters from the Attic: Save the Last Dance for Me by *Charles Young '50*. The author recalls his life through letters that he wrote during WWII and reflects on family life, young romance and the war's influence on his and future generations (iUniverse, $34.95).

I Am Abraham: A Novel of Lincoln and the Civil War by *Jerome Charyn '59*. Charyn interweaves fictional events with Lincoln's already well-documented life to provide a more human and intimate perspective on him (W.W. Norton & Co.: Liveright, $26.95).

Congo: The Miserable Expeditions and Dreadful Death of Lt. Emory Taunt, USN by *Andrew C.A. Jampoler '62*. Through retelling the story of Taunt's death, which occurred during a 1995 solo mission up the Congo River, the author offers a glimpse into the United States' role in the birth of a nation (Naval Institute Press, $44.95).

Alien Rule by *Michael Hechter '66*. The author argues that alien rule (non-native leaders) can be legitimate if it provides governance that is both effective and fair. Reflecting on historical examples, he then applies his theories to universities, corporations and families (Cambridge University Press, $28.99).

Medimont Reflections: 40 Years of Issues and Idahoans by *Chris Carlson '68*. In this collection of essays, Carlson draws from 40 years of public life as a press secretary and journalist to provide a history of Idaho's politics and northwestern conservation issues (Ridenbaugh Press, $15.95).

Report from the Interior by *Paul Auster '69*. Narrated in the second person, this autobiography tracks Auster's moral, political and intellectual journey as he moves toward adulthood through the postwar 1950s and into the turbulent 1960s (Henry Holt and Co., $27).

Saint Bernard's Three-Course Banquet: Humility, Charity, and Contemplation in the *De Gradibus* by *Bernard Bonowitz '70*. The author digs into the seventh chapter of Saint Bernard's *The Steps of Humility and Pride* to provide a spiritual guide for the Cistercian disciple and modern reader alike (Liturgical Press, $18.95).

The Tales of Hoffmann by *William Germano '72*. Germano argues that the elaborate theatrical requirements of composer Jacques Offenbach's opera *Les contes d'Hoffmann* allowed directors Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger to work imaginatively and creatively in their cinematic adaptation (Palgrave Macmillan, $14.95).

Into Daylight by *Jeffrey Harrison '80*. The author's Dorset Prize-winning collection of poetry reflects on the daily familiarities and fragilities experienced in a long marriage, refracted through the shock of a brother's suicide (Tupelo Press, $16.95).

The Sea & Civilization: A Maritime History of the World by *Lincoln Paine '81*. Paine uses the lens of maritime travel to retell human history, examining the world's waterways as the primary means of spreading goods, languages, religions and cultures (Knopf, $40).

The Everything Store: Jeff Bezos and the Age of Amazon by *Brad Stone '93*. Stone chronicles the rise of Bezos and the company he founded, providing a behind-the-scenes account of the e-commerce revolution (Little, Brown and Co., $28).

Jessica Darling's It List: The (Totally Not) Guaranteed Guide to Popularity, Prettiness & Perfection by *Megan McCafferty '95*. Jessica Darling, armed with a "guaranteed guide" from her older sister, stumbles through junior high as she discovers that being herself trumps popularity (Poppy, $17).

The Dead Run: A Novel by *Adam Mansbach '98*. In this supernatural and surreal work, an American police officer must track down a runaway girl while another American, incarcerated in Mexico, is tasked with delivering a living, beating heart to an apocalyptic cult leader in Texas (Harper Voyager, $25.99).

Raising Henry: A Memoir of Motherhood, Disability, & Discovery by *Rachel Adams, professor of English and comparative literature*. Drawing on her background in the study of the physically disabled and outcasts in American culture as well as her experience raising a son with Down syndrome, the author provides context for understanding the ways the disabled and their families are viewed and treated (Yale University Press, $26).

The Rise of Women: The Growing Gender Gap in Education and What it Means for American Schools by *Thomas A. Diprete, the Giddings Professor of Sociology, and Claudia Buchmann*. The authors analyze the social influences that have caused the growing gender gap in higher education (Russell Sage Foundation, $37.50).

Wonder Women: Sex, Power, and the Quest for Perfection by *Debora L. Spar, president of Barnard College*. Drawing on research and experience, Spar addresses how the political goals of the feminist movement have evolved into an overwhelming set of expectations for contemporary women to succeed in all areas of life (Sarah Crichton Books, $27).

Karl Daum '15



Susanna Daniel '97 Returns to Familiar Waters in Second Novel

By Justin DeFreitas

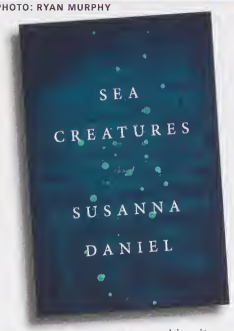
Susanna Daniel '97 set her first novel, *Stiltsville*, in the community of that same name, a mile off the south Florida coast in Biscayne Bay. The book allowed Daniel to explore familiar territory — she grew up roughly 40 miles away, in Coral Gables, south of Miami, and often visited the wood stilt houses whose residents inspired several of the novel's characters. It also earned her a 2011 PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize for debut fiction.

When she decided to write a second novel, however, Daniel feared she had exhausted the setting. "I thought I had burned Stiltsville down," she says.



PHOTO: RYAN MURPHY

Her husband dissuaded her of that notion, freeing Daniel to return to South Florida for *Sea Creatures* (HarperCollins, $25.99). "It just seemed the perfect setting for the material I had in mind," she says. "I like to write about marriages and parents, and Stiltsville is perfect for that: families together, trapped on an island."



The novel's emotional landscape is also somewhat familiar. Daniel, who suffers from insomnia and is the mother of two small children, centered the story on an insomniac, Georgia, whose son, Frankie, is closing in on 3. But from there the story takes on dramatic complications. Frankie refuses to speak and Georgia's husband, Graham, suffers from severe parasomnia. His dangerous, often threatening sleepwalking behavior causes disturbances in their Illinois community, precipitating the family's relocation to Georgia's hometown of Coral Gables. Though they hope for a fresh start, Georgia soon finds herself grappling with the impact that Graham's sleep disorder is having on their son as well as the implications of her relationship with a reclusive Stiltsville artist for whom she works as an errand runner.

Today, Daniel is a long way from the sunny shores of Florida. She lives in Madison, Wis., and teaches writing at the Madison Writers' Studio, which she founded last year with author Michelle Wildgen. The pair teach eight-week courses in fiction writing and nonfiction narrative. Daniel's inclination toward writing began as a junior at Columbia. At that time the College did not have an undergraduate writing program, "so I took the playwriting class," she says. "It was a general class, held in the evenings. I took it over and over."

A few years after graduation, while working as an editor, it occurred to Daniel that although she thought of herself as a writer, she hadn't written anything since her time at Columbia. "I realized I was going to have to make it happen," she recalls. So she applied to the University of Iowa Writers' Workshop in Iowa City. "It forced me to take my writing seriously. It gave me discipline," she says. "It took years off the process of developing as a writer. Not that I'm through developing, by any means. But it forces you to confront your flaws."

Daniel felt she was strong on character and language but needed to develop her skills in plotting and action. She had a tendency, early on, to write about characters lost in their own thoughts — "people doing nothing, just staring into mirrors or sitting in airports with a drink in one hand," she says with a laugh.

One story written at Iowa proved a sort of golden ticket. "We Are Cartographers" was included in the 2001 edition of *Best New American Voices* and earned Daniel a teaching and writing fellowship at Iowa as well as a fellowship at the University of Wisconsin. The story, along with two others, served as the basis for *Stiltsville*.

Sea Creatures, by contrast, was conceived as a novel from the start. The idea stemmed from an afternoon Daniel spent sitting in her car in a Target parking lot. While her infant napped in the backseat, Daniel listened to the *Moth Radio Hour* broadcast of Mike Birbiglia's one-man show, "Sleepwalk With Me," in which the comedian chronicles his own harrowing experiences with parasomnia. She was struck by the subject's fictional possibilities. "I just wondered what it would be like to be married to a parasomniac," Daniel says.

Daniel constructed a tale of a family that hopes and may even believe that it's merely working its way through a transition. But gradually it becomes clear that the family is drifting amid dire, if understated, crisis, with disaster looming on the horizon. "I like novels where nothing happens until the end," Daniel says, "and then *everything* happens — character-based novels that explode into action in the final act."

Daniel captures the difficult dynamics of family life, including the sometimes conflicting pulls of personal and communal needs. And she conveys the heightened senses that accompany parenthood: the fear, the anxiety, the self-doubt and the compulsion to assess the safety of every situation, not to mention the sudden, blinding panic that can follow even a momentary lapse in attention. The first-person perspective brings Georgia's predicament to the fore as she weighs the emotional health and development of her child against the viability of her marriage.

"I tend to tell stories from a very personal perspective," Daniel says. "I like big, messy novels with a lot of heart."

Justin DeFreitas *is a Bay Area writer, editor and artist.*

Obituaries

1939

Thomas H. Dawkins, retired plumber, artist, Middletown, Conn., on April 30, 2012. Dawkins was born in Fort Worth, Texas. He opened a plumbing business in Manchester after serving in the Army Air Corps during WWII. After retiring, he turned to art, forming the plumbing materials with which he was comfortable working into a variety of sculptures, many with religious themes. He traveled into his 90s and remained active, including as a member of the Talcottville Congregational Church. Dawkins is survived by his son, Thomas, and Thomas' fiancée, Catherine Rohrbach; daughter, Elizabeth Poreba, and her husband, John; brother, John; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his sisters, Joan and Christine; and brother, Richard. Memorial contributions may be made to The Nature Conservancy.

1943

Cedric C. Philipp, retired pharmaceutical representative, Audubon, Pa., on July 18, 2013. Philipp was born in Iquique, Chile, on July 3, 1922. Philipp entered the Army in December 1943. Commissioned at Fort Benning, Ga., he is in its OCS Hall of Fame. Philipp was in the Rhineland Campaign and toward the end of the war he joined a team in Spain to capture Hitler if he escaped there. Philipp was U.S. representative on the Quadripartite Property Control Secretariat in Berlin. Leaving the Army in October 1946, He drove a Jeep from Venezuela to Chile, the first trip by vehicle the length of South America, totally overland. He attended the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton and then joined the Department of State Office for Inter-American Affairs. For 30 years Philipp was an executive of Wyeth International and worked in 44 countries. On retirement, he headed a consultancy to the pharmaceutical industry and was a volunteer for the International Executive Service Corps. He lived in Radnor, Pa., for 39 years. Philipp is survived by his wife, Sue; children, Tad '80 Business, Christopher and Julie; and three grandchildren.

1948

Paul H. Gerst, surgeon, Tenafly, N.J., on September 29, 2013. Gerst earned an M.D. from P&S in 1952. He completed training in general surgery and cardiothoracic surgery at NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center and joined the attending staff in 1962. In 1964, he was appointed department chair of surgery and surgical residency program director at the Bronx Lebanon Hospital Center and professor of surgery at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, a position he held until his retirement in 2003. Gerst had a distinguished career as surgeon and educator and in 2003 received the Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education for outstanding direction of The Bronx Lebanon Hospital Center Surgical Residency Training program. During the Korean War, he served as a medical officer with the Army in Korea. Gerst is survived by his sons, Steven '81, '86

Arnold A. Saltzman '36, Diplomat and Presidential Adviser

Arnold A. Saltzman '36, a diplomat, businessman and presidential adviser, died in Sands Point, N.Y., on January 2, 2014. He was 97.

Saltzman, who worked until a week before his death, was involved in many aspects of business, public service and diplomacy. He worked on foreign and economic policy under five U.S. Presidents.

Emigrating from Russia, Saltzman's family settled in New York City, where Saltzman was born on October 1, 1916. He attended Samuel J. Tilden H.S. At Columbia, Saltzman majored in economics and government. He was the president of his fraternity, Beta Sigma Rho, and a member of the tennis team and the Debate Council.



PHOTO: COURTESY ARNOLD A. SALTZMAN INSTITUTE OF WAR & PEACE STUDIES

After graduating at 20, Saltzman left his family business, Premier Knitting, to work on economic policy for the Roosevelt administration during the Depression, serving on the Industrial Mobilization Commission and with the Office of Price Administration. He also served in the Coast Guard as an officer, 1943–45. In 1961, Saltzman became CEO of Seagrave Corp. (later Vista Resources), which made fire engines.

Saltzman continued to work on policy in the 1960s, first under the Kennedy administration as a troubleshooter and then as an adviser for numerous committees and agencies. He also participated in diplomatic envoy work in Eastern Europe under the Johnson administration, worked with the U.S. Agency for International Development and advised the Office of Economic Opportunity. Saltzman helped negotiate the Nuclear Non-Proliferation treaty in Vienna in 1967–68, for which he received a Presidential Commendation.

In 1992, while chairman of the investment firm Windsor Production Corp., Saltzman was hired by the former Soviet Republic of Kyrgyzstan as its chief negotiator for contracts to develop the nation's mineral resources. Acting as the middleman between Kyrgyzstan and western companies, Saltzman had the authority to sign contracts on Kyrgyzstan's behalf. In a 1992 *New York Times* article, he said that despite his age, working in foreign policy and development was "better than taking a vacation."

While negotiating policy and managing corporations, Saltzman remained an active member of the Columbia community, establishing a number of scholarships, including the Arnold A. Saltzman Scholarship Fund. Saltzman was awarded the Alumni Medal in 1964. In 1965, he helped to found the Double Discovery Program (now the Double Discovery Center). In 2003, the Institute of War & Peace Studies — founded by President Eisenhower during his tenure as Columbia's president — was renamed the Arnold A. Saltzman Institute of War & Peace Studies. Saltzman endowed two professorships at SIPA: the Arnold A. Saltzman Professor of War and Peace Studies and the Arnold A. Saltzman Professor of Professional Practice in International and Public Affairs. Saltzman chaired the Columbia College Board of Overseers, the University Trustees, the Columbia College Fund and the John Jay Associates.

Inspired by an undergraduate art history class, Saltzman had a lifelong passion for collecting art. He was a generous donor to galleries and museums; he assumed direction of and revitalized the Nassau County Museum of Fine Arts and was a trustee of the Baltimore Museum of Art. Saltzman is survived by his wife, Joan, whom he married in 1942; sons, Robert '67 and Eric '69; daughter, Marian; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Karl Daum '15

P&S, '87 PH, Andrew and Jeffrey; and a granddaughter. His wife, Dr. Elizabeth C. Gerst, a former assistant dean at P&S, died in 1994.



Leonard Ornstein '48

Leonard Ornstein, cell biologist and professor emeritus, White Plains, N.Y., on May 7, 2013. Born in 1926, Ornstein served in the Navy as a hospital corpsman during WWII. He earned an M.A. (1949) and Ph.D. (1957), both in biological sciences, from GSAS. He taught and conducted research in Columbia's biology department 1949–64. Ornstein joined Mt. Sinai Hospital in 1954, where he was director of its Cell Research Laboratory, and was a professor of pathology in its School of Medicine 1966–92. That year, he retired and became a professor emeritus. Ornstein had a long and distinguished career in cell biology and cytochemistry, with technical specialties in flow cytometry, electrophoresis, bioengineering, biophysics, electro-optics, optical and electron microscopy and automated medical diagnosis. He also researched and wrote about information theory and meaning, pattern recognition and artificial neural networks, epistemology, agricultural irrigation and global warming. Ornstein held 26 patents in the fields of histochemistry, bioengineering and agricultural irrigation. He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Theresa Roller Ornstein; sister, Norma O. Goldstein; sons, Avi and Tad; daughter, Cindy; son-in-law, Charles Johnson; daughters-in-law, Bernice Nowak-Ornstein and Lyanne LaBelle Ornstein; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. A second daughter, Rani Simoff, preceded him in death.

Obituary Submission Guidelines

Columbia College Today welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Deaths are noted in the next available issue in the "Other Deaths Reported" box. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that *CCT* receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at the editors' discretion. Click "Contact Us" at college.columbia.edu/cct, or mail materials to Obituaries Editor, *Columbia College Today*, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 6th Fl., New York, NY 10025.

1949

Herbert F. "Smokey" Stover, retired pilot, Laconia, N.H., on May 26, 2013. Stover was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., on January 8, 1925, and graduated from Brooklyn Tech. He enlisted in the Navy and trained as an aviation electrician's mate. After graduating from Columbia he was hired by Eastern Air Lines and served in various capacities for 37 years, finishing his career as No. 1 senior captain while based in Boston. In 1975, Stover met and married Joni (Ballard) Dow; they were married 38 years. After mandatory retirement from Eastern Air Lines at 60, Stover filled his time with building projects, a run for the city council, a brief stint in real estate and several terms on the YMCA Board of Directors. Twenty-five winters were spent at the couple's retirement home in Fort Myers, Fla., and golf remained a favorite pastime. Stover is survived by his wife; children, Lorinda Steadman and her husband, John, and Herbert F. "Ricko" III; stepchildren, Brenda Daniels and her husband, Dennis, John H. Dow, Linda Hayes and her husband, Todd, and Mary K. Dow and her companion, Leigh Studley; and five grandchildren and stepgrandchildren. Stover was predeceased by a brother, Arthur; and a son, Scot.

1950

Harry W. Pauley, professor emeritus, Newburg, Pa., on February 3, 2014. Pauley was born on April 6, 1921, in Spring Hill, Pa. He enlisted in the Navy in WWII and rose to the rank of chief radioman. He entered the College on the GI Bill ("the best thing the government ever did, which should be expanded to include everyone who can get into college"). Pauley revered the Core, and was grateful to study with professors including Mark Van Doren '21 GSAS and Joseph Wood Krutch '24 GSAS, and classmates who encouraged him to think. Pauley earned an M.A. in English from GSAS in 1952 and taught at the New Hampton School, the University of Minnesota Duluth and Stephens College. He earned a Ph.D. from Missouri in 1965, then taught English at Shippensburg State College (later University), specializing in Shakespeare. He wrote *Shakespeare: The Main Story* and a play, *The Rocking Chair*. Pauley is survived by his wife of 57 years, Evelyn M. (née Green); son, Christopher '84, and his wife, Barbara; daughter, Ingrid LaBarbiera '81 Barnard, and her husband, Leonard LaBarbiera '82 Business; and five grandchildren. Pauley was preceded in death by five siblings and one granddaughter.

1951

Chester M. "Chet" Edelmann Jr., professor of pediatrics, Bronxville, N.Y., on September 19, 2013. Edelmann earned an M.D. from Cornell and completed his residency in pediatrics as chief resident at BMHC. During his 57-year tenure at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Edelmann held many prestigious positions, including senior associate dean and Distinguished University Professor of Pediatrics. He authored 43 scientific abstracts and was a member of 25 national and international medical societies. Edelmann was a lover of languages and their usage; a concert level pianist; and a faithful patron of opera, the theater and the Philharmonic. He also created fine furniture and was a loyal Mets fan. Edelmann is survived by his wife of 60 years, Norma; children, John, Christopher and Kathy; sister, Maida Heitner; and one granddaughter. Memorial contributions may be made to Concordia College, Greenwich Hospital Inpatient Oncology Unit or the Sierra Club.

1952

David A. Braun, attorney, Montecito, Calif., on January 28, 2013. Braun was born on April 23, 1931, in New York City. He earned a degree from the Law School in 1954 and began his career in New York in the television industry before recognizing an opportunity in the late 1950s to represent singers and songwriters in the emerging world of rock 'n' roll. Braun was president and CEO of PolyGram Records in the United States in the early 1980s before returning to representing artists. Known as a tough negotiator, he led a move in the industry to demand higher royalty rates for artists. Braun worked with, among others, Bob Dylan; Peter, Paul and Mary; and Gordon Lightfoot. He also taught at UCLA and USC, and helped found the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum. Braun served on the College's Board of Visitors, was presented a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement in 1981 and was an Alumni Medalist in 1988. He practiced in New York until 1974 and thereafter in California. Braun is survived by his wife of 57 years, Merna; sons, Lloyd, Kenneth and Evan; daughters-in-law, Lauren, Joana and Shauna; and eight grandchildren.

1956

Seymour J. Mandelbaum, professor, Philadelphia, on January 23, 2013. Mandelbaum was born in Chicago and raised in New York before settling with his family in Philadelphia in the mid-1960s. He earned his graduate degrees from Princeton, and his Ph.D. thesis on New York City in the 1870s led to his book *Boss Tweed's New York*. Mandelbaum's interest was in the development of human communities, the moral orders that shaped them and the flow of individuals and information through them. He was the volume editor of *Explorations in Planning Theory* and served on several editorial boards. Mandelbaum taught briefly at the Carnegie Institute of Technology and Penn's Annenberg School for Communication before joining Penn's School of Design as a professor in 1967. He taught planning theory, communication policy and planning, international comparative planning, community design and urban history; he became professor emeritus in 2004. Mandelbaum enjoyed vacationing with his family on Long Beach Island, N.J. Surviving him are his wife, the former Dorothy Rosenthal; sons, David and Judah; daughter, Betsy; a sister; and six grandchildren. A brother predeceased him. Memorial contributions may be made to the Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders Center, University of Pennsylvania, 330 S. Ninth St., Philadelphia, PA 19107, or to the National Parkinson Foundation, 1501 N.W. Ninth Ave., Miami, FL 33136.

1957

Sheldon S. Hendler, scientist, physician, musician, San Diego, on November 12, 2012. Hendler was born May 12, 1936, in Brooklyn, N.Y. He earned a Ph.D. in biochemistry from GSAS in 1969, then conducted post-doctoral studies at UCSD and the Salk Institute, where he made seminal discoveries on the structure of the nucleosome and contributed to the development of the first antiviral drugs. After helping found the Medical School at Universidad Autónoma de Baja California, Tijuana, and chairing its first Department of Biochemistry, Hendler

completed an M.D. at UCSD and a medical residency at Scripps Mercy Hospital, San Diego. He was a leading authority on micro nutrition, human physiology and the impact of diet and lifestyle upon health and disease. He authored more than 50 peer-reviewed manuscripts and a number of books on nutrition, and was the founding editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Medicinal Food*. The world's first description and biochemical characterization of a new human disease, elastoderma, was described by Hendler and his colleagues in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in 1985. A concert-level jazz trumpet player, Hendler composed the original musical score for the 1973 television series *The Ascent of Man*. He was preceded in death by his son, Seth, and is survived by his wife, Joyce, and their son, Ross.

1958

Myron Bander, professor of physics and astronomy, Newport Beach, Calif., on December 19, 2012. Bander was born in Belzyce, Poland, on December 11, 1937. In 1939, his father moved the family to what is now Ukraine. The family spent the remainder of WWII there, part of the time in a ghetto and for many months hidden by two Polish families, before being liberated in 1944. The family relocated to displaced persons camps in Austria and Germany before immigrating to the United States in 1949. Bander attended Brooklyn Tech and earned a bachelor's in physics as well as a Ph.D. from GSAS (1961). His principal field of research was quantum field theory and elementary particle physics, in particular. After a year as an NSF Postdoctoral Fellow at CERN, the University of Copenhagen and the University of Paris, Bander became a research associate at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center. In 1966 he joined the faculty of UC Irvine, where he spent the last 46 years of his career. He chaired the Department of Physics and Astronomy 1978–80 and 1992–95, and was the third dean of the School of Physical Sciences, 1980–86. Survivors include his wife, Carol.

1967

Alan Candiotti, university dean and professor, Madison, N.J., on August 19, 2013. After graduating as valedictorian of Francis Lewis H.S. at 16, Candiotti earned a B.A. in mathematics and then a Ph.D. in mathematics from Harvard (1973). He was the interim dean of Drew University's College of Liberal Arts in Madison, N.J., and a professor, since 1980, of mathematics and computer science. Candiotti earned the President's Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1992 and was the chair of the mathematics and computer science department. In 1994, he was named assistant v.p. for university technology. Candiotti published many academically acclaimed articles on number theory. He was also deeply involved in teaching New Jersey's top high school students as director of the New Jersey Governor's School in the Sciences in 1986 and again 1988–90. Candiotti was his family's historian, an active member of Congregation B'nai Israel in Basking Ridge, N.J., and a lifelong Yankees fan. He is survived by many cousins, colleagues, students and friends. Memorial contributions may be made to Drew University and sent to its Office of Annual Giving, 36 Madison Ave., Madison, NJ 07940.

Richard D. Heffner '46, '47 GSAS, Host of Public Television's *Open Mind*

Richard D. Heffner '46, '47 GSAS, host of public television's current-affairs program *Richard Heffner's Open Mind,* a communications professor and the former chair of the Classification and Ratings Administration, died on December 17, 2013. He was 88 and lived in New York City.

Nobel Peace Prize laureate Elie Wiesel once described Heffner as "one of the most intelligent, sensitive interviewers" who with "every subject that he chooses — war, politics, literature — manages to humanize it and bring it up rather than bring it down." First broadcast in 1956, *Open Mind* examined then-controversial topics: homosexuality, alcoholism, McCarthyism, segregation and anti-Semitism. Heffner's guests included writers, activists and politicians, from Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X to Isaac Asimov '39, '41 GSAS and Gloria Steinem.



PHOTO: RANDY MONCEAUX

Heffner was born in New York City on August 5, 1925. He graduated from DeWitt Clinton H.S. in the Bronx and majored in history at the College. Heffner was one of the earliest on-air voices for the Columbia University Radio Club, where he delivered weekly current events reports. He earned an M.A. in history under Richard Hofstadter '42 GSAS. In 1952, Heffner published the first of many books, *A Documentary History of the United States*, a collection of primary documents of American history.

After graduation, Heffner taught briefly at Sarah Lawrence but left to pursue broadcasting. In 1953, he visited radio stations throughout New York City to pitch an interview with Eleanor Roosevelt on the eighth anniversary of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's death. Accepted by WMCA, Heffner's interview marked the beginning of his broadcasting career with the weekly half-hour show *History in the News.*

A year later, Heffner moved on to *Man of the Year,* a public affairs show, and in 1956 he launched *Open Mind,* which he produced and hosted from its inception until his death, with unaired episodes to air posthumously.

Heffner joined the editorial board at CBS in 1959. In 1961, he helped negotiate the acquisition of Channel 13, a failing commercial station in Newark, N.J. The station became New York's first public television station and today's WNET, with Heffner its founding general manager. He left in 1963 over a disagreement over the channel's direction.

Heffner was the University Professor of Communications and Public Policy at Rutgers from 1964 until his death. He also founded the consulting firm Richard Heffner Associates, which served such clients as American Airlines and Time, Inc.

In 1974, Heffner became the sixth chair of the Classification and Ratings Administration of the Motion Picture Association of America, serving until 1994. Under his leadership, CARA added two new ratings: PG-13 in 1984 and NC-17 in 1990.

Heffner published his book *As They Saw It: A Half-Century of Conversations from* The Open Mind, in 2004. The book brings together decades of historic and exclusive interviews conducted by Heffner, who was described in his *New York Times* obituary by John Corry as a man who "would sooner dive under the tablecloth than needlessly interrupt. When he does interrupt, it's because he has something to say."

Heffner is survived by his wife, Elaine '51 SW, '86 TC; sons, Daniel and Andrew; and four grandchildren.

Karl Daum '15

1969

Mark L. Drucker, professor, St. Louis, on August 12, 2013. Drucker attended Mount Vernon H.S. At the College, he was president of the senior class and active in many University activities. He and his then-wife, Pamela D. Lathrop, moved to Boston, where Drucker attended Harvard Business School. While there, he wrote articles for one of the Harvard Business School publications. Following his HBS graduation, Drucker taught in New York City at the New School for Social Research. The family moved to St. Louis in 1975, where Drucker taught at St. Louis University and then Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. He enjoyed movies, TV, reading, history, talking and trivia. Drucker and his companion, Carita, were in many trivia contests in the St. Louis area. He was also an avid Cardinals fan and attended as many games as he could. Drucker is survived by his children, Michael and Hilary; and six grandchildren.

OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

Columbia College Today also has learned of the following deaths. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that *CCT* receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear.

1934 **Millard L. Midonick,** attorney, New York City, on January 18, 2014.
1938 **George W. Sferra,** dentist, Gulfport, Fla., on November 6, 2013.
1942 **John A. Persson,** retired engineer, Cranberry Township, Pa., on October 15, 2013.
1943 **Ernest E. Tucker,** physician, Morristown, N.J., on December 16, 2013.
1945 **Norman J. Selverstone,** physician, New York City, on November 5, 2013.
1947 **Jules L. Gladstone,** physician, Monroe Township, N.J., on November 2, 2013.
1948 **Harvey C. Gardner,** editor and actor, Nyack, N.Y., on December 11, 2013.
1949 **Albert E. Koska,** retired insurance underwriter, Jersey City, N.J., on December 12, 2013.
Lewis Kurke, retired psychiatrist, Scottsdale, Ariz., on May 29, 2013.
1950 **Joseph A.M. Mehan,** communications executive, Fort Myers, Fla., on December 18, 2013.
Harry W. Pauley, professor, Newburg, Pa., on February 3, 2014.
1951 **George E. Chase,** real estate broker, Atlanta, on September 16, 2013.
Allan W. Robbins, retired Navy officer and librarian, Alexandria, Va., on March 3, 2013.
1952 **Thomas E. Federowicz,** retired physician, Binghamton, N.Y., on November 27, 2013.
Robert C. Schwegler, certified life underwriter, North Tonawanda, N.Y., on June 25, 2012.
1954 **Enno W. Ercklentz,** international corporate lawyer, New York City, on January 24, 2014.
1955 **Thomas L. Chrystie,** retired investment banker and executive, Charleston, S.C., on December 24, 2013.
Jay P. Joseph, Merrick, N.Y., on November 23, 2010.
1956 **Leslie Y. Rabkin,** retired clinical psychologist and professor, Seattle, on January 7, 2014.
1958 **Martin F. Stein,** physician, Bronxville, N.Y., on November 11, 2013.
Charles A. Swenson, retired software developer and editor, Alpharetta, Ga., on September 21, 2013.
1959 **Evan Juro,** marketing and advertising executive, Matamoras, Pa., on November 13, 2013.
George H. Semel, plastic surgeon, Los Angeles, on December 4, 2013.
Richard J. Stepcick, retired design and merchandising executive, Dallas, on January 29, 2014.
1960 **Earl B. Hathaway II,** corporate banker, Falmouth, Maine, on October 18, 2013.
1961 **Kenneth C. Edelin,** physician, Sarasota, Fla., on December 30, 2013.
Victor Hao Li, executive consultant and professor, Oakland, Calif., on September 18, 2013.
1962 **Ralph B. Dunn,** attorney, Aventura, Fla., on December 29, 2013.
1965 **Geoffrey M. Horn,** editor and writer, Red Bank, N.J., on November 25, 2013.
1967 **John W. Elsberg,** retired editor and poet, Arlington, Va., on July 28, 2012.
1969 **Arthur Schoengold,** physician, Derwood, Md., on April 20, 2013.
Conley E. Ward, attorney and politician, Kuna, Idaho, on October 28, 2013.
1970 **Anthony J. Rock,** Eastchester, N.Y., on January 28, 2014.
Richard G. Smolev, retired attorney and novelist, Kintnersville, Pa., on January 25, 2014.
1972 **William A. Pencak,** professor and editor, Coburn, Pa., on December 9, 2013.
1981 **Louis J. Brindisi III,** consultant, Jamaica Plain, Mass., on June 11, 2011.
1987 **Karin M. Higa,** art curator, Los Angeles, on October 29, 2013.

1981

Alan J. Saffran, otolaryngologist, Winter Park, Fla., on September 27, 2013. Saffran was born in New York City on July 30, 1960. He graduated from Bronx Science, the College and P&S (1986). At the College, Saffran was a founding member of the Roach Motel League, considered the oldest continuously operating fantasy baseball league. As an alumnus, Saffran was an active member of the Alumni Representative Committee. Saffran did his residency at Virginia and in 1990 relocated to the Orlando area and began his practice. He was ENT chief at both Orlando Regional Medical Center and Florida Hospital. Saffran also was devoted to humanitarian causes, taking trips to Mexico to treat needy children with cleft palates. Back home, Saffran was an active volunteer at Park Maitland School, which his children attended, serving as a science-fair judge and speaking to parents and students about nutrition and health. His wife of 19 years, the former Pamela Thompson, survives him, as do their children, Miles, Nathaniel and Ella; his mother, Dolores; and brother, Bruce, and his wife, Elaine. Memorial contributions may be made to an organization to combat cancer established by Saffran's daughter, Ella: Cross Out Cancer, 471 Virginia Dr., Winter Park FL 32789.

Jonathan Taffler, business executive, Wilton, Conn., on September 13, 2013. Taffler was born on October 27, 1959, in Brooklyn, N.Y. He was the founder and president of Programmed Solutions and more recently president and co-founder of Spitfire Product Management System. He also developed software. Taffler was a pilot, a flight instructor and an avid sportsman, and he loved to travel. Taffler is survived by his daughters, Brooke and Lindsay; parents, Sy and Elaine; sister, Robin, and her husband, Dick Dougherty; nephew, Casey Dougherty; and former wife and mother to his children, Randi Shamitz.

1992

Meredith A. Norton, author, Oakland, Calif., on August 2, 2013. Norton was born on January 10, 1970, in Berkeley. She earned a degree in fine arts and film studies from the College and spent part of her college junior year in Milan studying fine arts. Norton worked variously as a hymnal editor with the Anglican Church Center in New York, Hollywood assistant talent agent, Sorbonne zoology student, junior high school American history teacher, CEO of Norton Whittaker, graduate engineering student (in preparation to be an astronaut) and a radio sports editor in Paris before finding her métier as an author and editor after marrying, having a son and developing breast cancer. Her book, *Lopsided: How Having Breast Cancer Can Be Really Distracting*, published in 2008, was hailed as a wickedly funny, unique addition to the genre of breast cancer memoirs for its insightful observations and skewering of cultural attitudes and medical behavior. Norton is survived by her husband, Thibault J. Jousse; son, Lucas; sister, Angela; brother, Douglas, and his wife, Ashante; parents, John and Eloise; grandmother, G. Alexandria Edwards; uncle, Edward; a niece; and three nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

2003

Shannon K. Smith, grant management specialist, Jamaica Plain, Mass., on June 5, 2013. Smith was raised in South Weymouth, Mass., and recently lived in Jamaica Plain. She was a 2011 graduate of the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, where she attended a master's program in English and library science and was a teaching assistant. During the last two years of her life, Smith was employed in the oncology research department of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Prior to entering the University of Wisconsin, she taught English as a foreign language in Leszno, Poland, and Daegu, South Korea, and had worked at the Harvard School of Public Health in the grants research department. Smith loved music and had performed both in groups and as an experimental soloist. She was also an accomplished fiction writer. Smith is survived by her parents, Richard W. and Mary Jane Sullivan Smith; sister, Deirdre; and brother, Patrick. Memorial contributions may be made to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, PO Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284 or via dana-farber.org/gift.

Lisa Palladino

Class Notes

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Your friends and classmates want to hear from you! Please send news about yourself or your family, or a favorite Columbia College memory, to *CCT* at either the email or postal address above, or you can send news online via *CCT*'s easy-to-use webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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No news this time but I encourage you to get in touch. Your classmates want to know how you are. You can write me at either address at the top of the column, or use *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. In the meantime, best wishes for a happy spring. May the warm weather come again soon!

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On October 1, I had a note from **Paul Hauck,** who reported that he and his wife, Betty, sold their 200-year-old house in Maryland and are now full-time residents of Florida. Paul reports that at 93 he still drives to meetings of his local Columbia Alumni Club and his Antique Clock Collectors Club. A former member of the Gulf Coast Runners, he now "just walks in air-conditioned malls." I last heard from Paul in May 2012, when he sent regrets from his home in Naples, Fla., about being unable to attend our 70th reunion luncheon.

Class Notes are submitted by alumni and edited by volunteer class correspondents and the staff of *CCT* prior to publication. Opinions expressed are those of individual alumni and do not reflect the opinions of *CCT*, its class correspondents, the College or the University.

At Columbia, Paul was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and in 1964 he earned an M.B.A. from The George Washington University. He later served as a consultant to the Navy and Department of Defense. As one of our most accomplished and loyal alumni, we salute Paul for his devotion to Columbia and send him good wishes for many walks in air-conditioned malls.

The New York Times editions of October 24 and 27 contained obituary notices for **Philip Sherman Hobel,** who died at 92 at home in New York City on October 23, 2013, after a long struggle with Alzheimer's disease. After Columbia, Phil served in WWII as a Navy officer, a lieutenant and an admiral's aide in the Destroyer Command-Atlantic Fleet (ComDesLant). After the war Phil established Cortland Furniture Co., a prominent manufacturer and wholesale distributor, where he worked until 1970, when he changed to a career in the film and television business. He became founder and owner of Cinema Guild, Hobel-Leiterman Productions and Document Associates, and produced and distributed many award-winning TV features and documentaries; these include *Tender Mercies*, which won Academy Awards in 1983 for best original screenplay (Horton Foote) and best performance by an actor (Robert Duvall).

At Columbia, Phil earned numerals for freshman fencing, was a member of Debate Council and was an advertising manager for *Spectator*. He served on the Kings Crown Advisory Committee and was chairman of the junior prom. As a member of the Van Am Society and an active member of the ZBT fraternity, Phil's many contributions to our undergraduate life were recognized by his election to membership in Nacoms.

His wife, Mary-Ann '47 Barnard, told me that Phil frequently mentioned his happy memories of his Columbia years, especially his colloquium seminar with Professors Jacques Barzun '27, '32 GSAS and Lionel Trilling '25, '38 GSAS, and his many friendships with his ZBT fraternity brothers. Since 2003 he had served, along with **Thornley Wood** (who passed away in 2011), as one of our class vice presidents.

Phil is survived by his beloved wife; sons, Joseph '75 and Michael; daughter, Sara; and six grandchildren. He was predeceased by a sister, Bernice. We send our condolences to Phil's family, who suggest that contributions in Phil's memory may be made to the Taub Institute for Research on Alzheimer's Disease and the Aging Brain at Columbia University.

Paul Hauck '42 and his wife, Betty, are full-time residents of Florida, where Paul attends local Columbia Alumni Club meetings.

Because of illness in the family, your correspondent was unable to attend the Homecoming game on October 19, which we lost to Penn, 21–7. *CCT*'s alert executive editor, Lisa Palladino, was there as usual and reported to me that our Class of 1942 was represented by **Immanuel Lichtenstein.** Manny, one of our most loyal and enthusiastic classmates, was an authority on metals and metallurgical technology in his business career and, though he lives in Princeton, N.J., has remained a loyal Lion. I last saw Manny at our 70th reunion luncheon in June 2012 in Hamilton Hall, where he made some interesting comments about the Core Curriculum in an exchange with Dean Kathryn Yatrakis.

As I write some of these notes on November 20, 2013, I see in my perpetual Columbia calendar that on November 20, 1982, 31 years ago, I was at the old Baker Field, watching the last game played there before it was torn down and replaced by Lawrence A. Wien Stadium. We lost that game to Brown, 35–21. With me were lifelong friends **Gerald Green** and Ray Robinson '41.

Gerald, who died in August 2006, was a prolific, famous novelist and television producer. His novel *The Last Angry Man* was made into a film with Paul Muni. He also was one of the founders of Dave Garroway's NBC morning news show, *Today*, with J. Fred Muggs, and his *Holocaust* television series brought him worldwide acclaim. Ray wrote a biography of Lou Gehrig '25 (*Iron Horse*) and more than 25 other books, including biographies and portraits of famous sportsmen. Ray, 92, lives in New York City and is a loyal Columbia alumnus.

The co-captains of that 1982 football team were Jim Davin '82 and Mike Scavina '83. Jim became a sales executive with Procter & Gamble in Lancaster, N.Y., and Mike went to Ohio State's medical school before becoming a cardiologist in Boardman, Ohio.

Our 2013 football season was another major disappointment, with no wins and 10 consecutive losses. The team allowed 402 points scored by opponents (a record) and in turn scored only 53 points on offense in the 10 games, the lowest total on offense since 1958. That 1958 team scored a meager 35 points during the entire season and was held scoreless in six games. Memories return of Columbia's record 44-game losing streak, which began in 1984 and ended when we defeated Princeton, 16–13, on October 8, 1988, in the fourth game of that season. Among many students and alumni there is a rising tide of restlessness and discontent over the dismal failures of Columbia's football program. These sentiments were recently expressed in an editorial and in a letter to the editor, published in *Spectator*, calling for the dismissal of Athletics Director M. Dianne Murphy and head football coach Pete Mangurian. *The New York Times*, which ordinarily does not pay much attention to Columbia athletics, had a feature story in the sports section on November 23, discussing the long-term failures of Columbia football and some of the reasons for it. How President Lee C. Bollinger will react to this situation remains to be seen, although he indicated his support for Murphy in a response to the *Spec* editorial.

In contrast to our football disappointment, we can celebrate the extraordinary accomplishments of our men's cross country team, which was ranked among the top 10 in the nation under the expert coaching of Willy Wood. We also have a nationally ranked women's cross country star in Waverly Neer '15, and a national champion women's archery team. We are still waiting for the men's and women's basketball teams to become Ivy League champions.

Though I write these notes in 2013, they will be published in the New Year. I send best wishes and kind regards to all members of our Class of 1942, and I encourage you to contact me with news of your families and yourselves.

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Bernard Weisberger writes, "What remembrances can I summon up of the nine months past? It's almost exactly that since the June 2 reunion lunch. No exotic or even familiar travels — nearest I can come is a trip from here in Chicago to Colorado to visit my daughter and son-in-law in a suburb of Denver. That at least gives me a chance to plug my favorite mode of travel, rail. There's nothing like relaxing by a big picture window, feet partly elevated, libation in hand, watching prairies, mountains and river crossings roll by, to say nothing of the big cities and dwindling small towns through which you are passing. Even with many scars of erased natural splendor on its face, it's still *America the Beautiful*. I wish that someday the price of a sleeper berth would shrink to affordable levels so that I could take even longer trips by Amtrak. At the moment, the most I can handle is one night of economy-class dozing in a chair.

"Like most nonagenarians, which is what all of us who entered Columbia in the fall of 1939 now are, the usual topics of conversation are health and grandchildren — and now great-grandchildren! Both generations in my family are in good shape. As one who voluntarily and luckily wants to and can keep working, I have no plans for any more books (though the door remains open) but have published a few political musings from time to time on the indispensable website of my admired friend, Bill Moyers. OK, that's another plug and a worthy one.

"Before I ramble further and descend into hawking the merits of certain over-the-counter laxatives I'll sign off. Come on, '43-ers; don't leave the two or three of us out here as the lone contributors to the annals of our class."

Leo Stern shares, "We do more reminiscing than we used to! I have always wondered how some professors managed to remember the names of the students they taught. In '41 and '42, I was accelerating into the Dental School and was registered in large premed classes in physics and chemistry; there were more than 50 students in each, as I recall. That did not faze Professor Herman Farwell, who more than once sped by me on Broadway, cheerily saying, 'Hello, Stern!' Then there was the time when my cousin, Dick Stern, who was visiting from MIT, asked to come to my large chemistry class. Somewhat improperly, I brought him along. There was no assigned seating in the auditorium, but Professor Carpenter looked at Dick of all those seated and queried pleasantly, 'Who are you?'"

From my own diary, Casa D'Angio/Evans has been busy. Our guests for some days were the son of a New Zealand friend, and the young man's lady friend. They were good company, full of the exuberance of youth. Another guest was the daughter of our incomparable housekeeper of years past, the latter having long since passed away. We have maintained contact with the younger lady over all the years. She was the babysitter for my son, who is now a grandfather! The years pass.

In October, I went to Boston for the first of a series of annual lectures I endowed. It was given at the Boston Children's Hospital, where I trained. The lectures are named in honor of one of my influential mentors and role models, Dr. Martin "Dick" Wittenborg and his wife, Harriett. Those two played an important part in shaping my career. A named lecture seemed a fitting way to remember their importance for me and the many others who had the good fortune to know them. Their four children were all present for the occasion.

We attended the christening of my great-granddaughter, Margaret, in November. She is thriving, as are all my family members in their various pursuits.

Finally, it is my sad duty to share that **Robert S. Greene** '58 Arts, a documentary writer, jazz musician and founder of The World of Jelly Roll Morton Band, died on October 13, 2013, in Amagansett, N.Y. (See Obituaries in Winter 2013–14.) **Cedric C. Philipp,** a retired pharmaceutical representative, died in Audubon, Pa., on July 18, 2013.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1
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Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye: all members of the Class of 1944, please take note of our 70th reunion, to be held Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. This is our opportunity to renew old friendships and/or to catch up with those classmates whose acquaintance we somehow missed in the historic days of the 1940s. An exciting program awaits us, so please come whether for all four days or any part thereof. Come by plane, by boat, by car, by train, by subway or on foot; on your own steam or with the help of spouses, significant others and family members; with or without wheelchairs, walkers, crutches or canes. This is a not-to-be-missed opportunity to get together for members of The Greatest Generation!

Henry Rolf Hecht, my predecessor as class correspondent, writes, "Of course we are all in the same age bracket but old age seems to have hit me extra hard. I'm still alive and breathing and wish all the best to my classmates. Have a great 2014."

We heard from **Paul Sandhaus,** whose wife of 67 years, Helen, also says "hello." They winter in New Mexico and Tucson, and at this writing were expected to return to New York in late January. We recall that Paul produced two plays live on NBC in 1954 for the Armstrong Circle Theatre, and that Elizabeth Montgomery's professional debut was in one of them, *The Millstone*. Paul's novel, *A Choice of Evils*, based on his WWII experience as a bomb disposal officer and his business experience in advertising, was published in 1968. Paul also self-published *The Patralmador Paradox* in 2005. All that plus a successful career with the J. Walter Thompson Agency (now JWT Global Advertising Agency) and 33 years with his own agency, Paul Sandhaus Associates, in New York City.

Oscar (Bud) Harkavy and I have been emailing, although we never met as undergrads. When I told him that I remember that he sat in front of me in a Contemporary Civilization class, he said, "I should have turned around."

Dan Choy, in his so-called retirement, continues to market — with expanding success — his device for the cure of tinnitus.

Bruce Mazlish's latest nonfiction tome, *Reflections on the Modern and the Global*, has been published. As to the critics' response, he said: "It's too early to say how *Reflections* will be received. It tries to deal with the historian's effort to deal with the last 500 years until WWII under the rubric 'modernity,' and then the transition to what we call 'globalization.' The latter is then studied, under very contested ways, under the heading of 'global history.' I became heavily involved in this inquiry starting with my convening a conference in Bellagio, Italy, in 1987, backed by the Rockefeller Foundation. The papers were subsequently published as *Conceptualizing Global History*.

"Then the Toynbee Prize Foundation entered the picture. I was fortunate to be awarded the prize in 1986–87, and subsequently became president of the foundation for two years. The focus of the foundation became and continues to be global history. As you [Bill] say, we of the Class of 1944 are a dwindling number. You are good to have taken on the task of holding us together, while in the background we hear the wheels of time's chariot."

When I commented on the lofty status enjoyed by his wife, Neva Goodwin, Bruce responded, "My wife is indeed an extraordinary person. We have been married for 32 years, and every day I realize how wonderful she is. She is an economist and director of the Institute for Global Development and Environment at Tufts."

I, as class correspondent, am well aware of Neva's achievements, having read her brilliant speech, "What Can We Hope For the World in 2075?" — which she delivered at The Thirtieth E.F. Schumacher Lecture in November 2010 in NYC — and her essay, "A New Economics For the 21st Century," published in October 2010.

With the imminence of our 70th reunion, I have been thinking of members of my family [some now deceased] who graced the Columbia campus in days gone by. These include my kid brother, Dr. Norman E. Friedman '51, now residing in Boca Raton, Fla.; Harold T. Arbiter '22, who was my mentor when I began the practice of law; Paul Cohen '42; Raymond M. Glueck '45; Jacques Breitbart '46 GSAS; Robert Kassriel '48; Donald R. Klein, who was Engineering's dean of students 1969–75; and Rhoda Klein Breitbart '36 Barnard, '42L, now 99, who resides in Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y. Her article, "How It Was," about Barnard during the Great Depression, which was written when she was a youthful 90, appeared in the Fall 2004 edition of the *Barnard Magazine*.

I also think of my old pharmacist, Robert Jacobson, who graduated from Columbia's Pharmaceutical Sciences school in 1955, and my now-retired dentist and neighbor, Dr. Martin H. Spar '63 Dental, and his wife, Judy, who are the proud parents of Debora Spar, president of Barnard.

Finally, we note with sadness the passing of **Richard Bercu,** my Beta Sig fraternity brother.

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I am very pleased to have received four responses to my requests for news. It is a hope that the response increases.

Chester J. Semel '48 P&S reports, "[Columbia] was an exciting time for me. I remember some of my classmates. I see Arnold Zentner '46 from time to time. I remember luncheons with **Howard Schmertz,** the cafeteria, the serving lady extolling 'the good soup today,' professional option, the first year of medical school at P&S, the smell of spring when they fertilized the lawn at Hamilton Hall, the history of the duel and the war."

Mario E. DeOrchis writes, "I am 90, in good health, living in Delray Beach, Fla., and enjoying my retirement after practicing maritime law for 60 years in New York. After graduating from [high school] in 1941, I received a scholarship and a job at Columbia University. I volunteered in WWII and spent 30 months in Africa and Europe. Fortunately, I came back in one piece."

Jack Greenberg '48L reports, "I entered the College in 1941 and by mid-1943 had completed enough coursework to have attained what ordinarily could have been called junior status. I was in the V-12 Navy College Training Program and so I was shipped to Cornell to complete my undergraduate education. At Cornell I took an academic program of my choice for two semesters, except that I think I had to take courses in naval architecture and celestial navigation. After those two semesters I went to midshipmen's school for something like a semester, became a naval officer aboard an LST (landing ship tank) and went to sea for more than a year. After a few months of that, during which I participated in three invasions where we took the first wave of Marines onto the beach (including Iwo Jima), I got in the mail my Columbia A.B. degree because someone in the College or University decided I was entitled to several credits for my military experience, which when added to the College, Cornell and midshipmen's credits, gave me sufficient credits to graduate.

"Went to the Law School, followed by a job with the NAACP Legal Defense Fund (LDF), where I participated in many important civil rights cases including *Brown v. Board of Education*. Anyone interested in those years might want to read a book I wrote about the time, *Crusaders in the Courts*. I took leave from LDF from 1989 to 2003 to return to the College as dean. Enough said."

George T. Wright Jr. writes, "Earlier this year I published a book, *The Wrights of Vermont: Searching for My Father's Family,* which is mostly about my father's family through several centuries of living in New England (and especially Vermont). It is available from Amazon. [Editor's note: See "Bookshelf."] There is even more about Columbia in my next book, which I am trying to finish now. I have a long chapter titled 'Manhattan and Columbia,' which might interest classmates, at least the Columbia part. It includes, for example, memories of Nicholas Murray Butler (Class of 1882); of the colloquium course I took from Professors Lionel Trilling '25, '38 GSAS and Jacques Barzun '27, '32 GSAS; of my many years of singing in the Columbia choir; and so on. …

most ambitious and transforming initiative.

Attending the lunch were **Howard Cohen** and his wife, Marjory; **Richard Heffner; Mel Holson** '48E and his wife, Phyllis; **Ira Millstein** '47E; **Leonard Moss** and his wife, Muriel; **Irwin Nydick** and his wife, Eleanor; **Aihud Pevsner** and his wife, Lucille; **Bernard Sunshine** and his wife, Marjorie; and **Barnett Zumoff.** Everyone gave the luncheon a double thumbs-up.

Barnett Zumoff '46, in addition to a long career in medicine, has had a parallel career for 30 years as a translator of Yiddish literature.

"When I was drafted into the Army in 1944, Bernard Wishy '48, '58 GSAS (he was also a student in that colloquium class) was drafted with me, and we stayed together for almost all of our Army service. I don't want to send any excerpts of my writings about him, but mention it as a possible point of interest. Bernard, as you may know, died in 2012. He was a good friend in those war years and much later, after we retired.

"Perhaps I have said enough to start a conversation. Let me say that I do appreciate the difficult task you have in keeping us old folks sending news to you."

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Classmates living in the New York area met for lunch in October in a midtown French bistro. The gathering included six wives (women are becoming a regular enhancement to our get-togethers). As always, the focus was catching up and good humor. Joseph Ienuso, a Columbia e.v.p. whose responsibilities include overseeing construction of the Manhattanville campus, was our speaker. His PowerPoint presentation was impressive, and so is he. It was highly informative and giving perspective to the project were the following details:

The new campus is virtually the same size as the Morningside campus.

The southern boundary, West 125th Street, was originally a river, which poses construction challenges calling for creative engineering.

The construction budget exceeds $1 billion.

There have been significant changes around Columbia since we joined the family 70 years ago, but the Manhattanville campus is the

I had a phone call from **Eugene Rogers** '45E, one of the greats in Columbia's athletics history. A swimmer for the Lions, Gene won 53 intercollegiate events, losing only once when he and the declared winner were clocked in identical times. After he served in the Navy and when he was 24, he swam for the United States in the 1948 London Olympics. Gene recalled that he was narrowly beaten for a gold medal.

Barnett Zumoff, in addition to a long career in medicine — teaching, research and practicing (still) — has had a parallel career for the past 30 years as a translator of Yiddish literature. He is probably the most prolific living translator of Yiddish, with 23 volumes in print; his most recent are *In Pursuit of the Moment* by Itzhak Luden and *Red Shoes for Rachel: Two Novellas and a Story* by Boris Sandler. Barney writes, "It started when I was reading a newly published book of English translations of Yiddish poems and I remarked to a friend that I thought I could do better. I was immediately challenged to make good on my boast and I was off and running."

During the past two years Barney has begun writing original poetry in English. He says, "Where the poems come from I cannot say. I have rephrased that answer in the subtitle of my present volume, *Gifts from the Muse* — a poet's answer to an unanswerable question."

John McConnell reported two sightings from Post Falls, Idaho: "A Christmas tree of extra length, reportedly 88 ft., was being transported east for public display that required double 40-ft. trailers. And a 250-lb. cougar killed in a backyard in the neighboring town."

Ira Millstein '47E and his wife, Susan, lunched with **Harold Brown** in Santa Fe, where Harold resides. It was a great visit, said Ira.

The winter holiday season brought **Don Summa** to New York City for family visits and afforded a chance for this writer and he to have lunch. Don's talk about his experience flying gliders was fascinating. He has done so until recently.

This column ends with the sad news of the passing of two esteemed classmates:

Joseph Foa of Montgomery, Texas, passed away on January 13, 2013. His company, AJ Foa Associates, was engaged in insurance and real estate.

Richard D. Heffner died on December 17, 2013. His was a career in academia, television and Hollywood's film industry. For more than 50 years as creator and host of *Richard Heffner's Open Mind* on public television, Dick engaged in intense yet civilized discourse with world-renowned persons on a wide range of subjects. In honor of the 65th anniversary celebration of our class in June 2011, he taped a conversation with then-College Dean Michele Moody-Adams. It was previewed at our reunion, with Dick and the dean leading a spirited discussion.

Dick and I had exchanged emails on December 16 about our next class luncheon; given that the last was in October, as reported earlier in this column, I asked if it would be too soon to hold another in the spring. In support he wrote almost prophetically, "… natural attrition will no doubt have taken its further toll among us Ancients." He died the next day.

His program sign-off, which he attributed to a mentor, Edward R. Murrow, was always, "Good night and good luck."

[Editor's note: See Obituaries in this issue as well as a profile of Heffner in the Fall 2012 issue.]

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Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
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Dr. **Nicholas Giosa** let us know all is well: "I keep busy writing poetry, doing photography, cutting grass and looking after the household."

We, and the class, would love to hear from more of you. Please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory — using either the email or postal address at the top of the column. You also can send news online using *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

This column is a wonderful way for the class to stay connected but *CCT* needs a class correspondent to

write it. If you are interested, please contact Alexis Tonti '11 Arts, managing editor: alt2129@columbia.edu or 212-851-7485.

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Dr. **Peter A. Arturi** shared his story: "My folks were both immigrants and I was lucky to have been born here. Also lucky to have gone to Columbia, with a small interruption by WWII.

"Unfortunately I commuted to Columbia from lower Westchester County (Port Chester) and I would have enjoyed my college years more if I had lived on campus.

"However, I participated at Columbia on the basketball J.V. team under Lou Rossini ['47 TC] and I was invited to go out for the baseball team by John Balquist ['32], the coach after Andy Coakley.

"I elected a pre-medical career and was fortunate to go to NYU med with my GI Bill and war service scholarship.

"I elected to continue my medical experience at a hospital in Greenwich, Conn., and I was a general practitioner (primary physician) in Greenwich for 35½ years. I eventually achieved board certification in family medicine and after 17 years joined five other physicians to start the Emergency Department at Greenwich Hospital.

"My wife, Marillyn, and I have been married for 60 years (she is an R.N.). We have six children, 14 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, and are enjoying ourselves in Greenwich, a wonderful place said to be affluent but better yet a place for great diversity."

Dr. **Murray Strober** and Albert Burstein '47 wrote regarding the passing of Walter Budko '47E: "[We] must sadly report to you the death of our basketball teammate Walter Budko, on May 25, 2013. Walter was the 'gentle giant' who led the College team to the Eastern Intercollegiate League title (as it was then known) in the 1946–47 and 1947–48 seasons. After graduation Walter turned professional and was chosen by the Baltimore Bullets (now the Washington Wizards) and was a co-winner of Rookie of the Year in the NBA in the 1948–49 season. Subsequently, while still engaged as a player, when a coaching vacancy occurred in mid-season Walter was designated by ownership to take on that role as well. In recognition of his illustrious career, Walter was one of the early inductees into the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame.

"But Walter was not solely a world-class athlete. After his basketball career ended he became an insurance company executive, which endured until retirement. He exhibited a natural ability to be a leader whatever the undertaking, whether in the sports world or insurance industry.

"Walter was born and raised in metropolitan New York but remained in Baltimore after his playing career. He had a genial personality that attracted people to him. For those who remained in contact with Walter, his passing, after 66 years of friendship, leaves a significant void."

Dr. Alvin Eden '48, who lives in New York City, practices pediatrics and is writing another book about childhood obesity. He also plays doubles tennis.

Dr. **Alvin Eden,** who lives in New York City, is "still practicing pediatrics and writing another book about childhood obesity. Also playing tennis but only doubles."

William Horton lives in Cos Cob, Conn., and let us know things are well: "Married to Doris 65 years; 17 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Address unchanged."

We, and the class, would love to hear from more of you. Please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory — using either the email or postal address at the top of the column. You also can send news online using *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1

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49

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I'm writing this column in the wake of the second storm of January, on my birthday, in fact. I must report that the world is not all bad news and young folks are not all bad, either.

In our two-family house in Brooklyn we are blessed with tenants, two young women in their early 20s, who this morning gave me the birthday present of shoveling the snow from our sidewalk and both front stoops. That started the day right!

Our class president, **Fred Berman,** has been in touch and the reunion planning meetings continue. Please, all of you who can, set aside the dates for Alumni Reunion Weekend and make it a priority to attend: Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. All of us who have attended reunions can attest to the genuine pleasure and satisfaction that is deeply felt when we return to campus. Our class lunch is Saturday, and there will be other lectures and events to attend. Go to reunion.college.columbia.edu to register and for more information.

A personal note, if I may: As I have mentioned in previous Class Notes columns, I have been working with a nonprofit, PortSide NewYork (portsidenewyork.org), for the past seven years. It has been a struggle to get a nonprofit off the ground during these past several years of economic difficulties. Nevertheless, we managed to produce some meaningful programming and were the recipients of the White House "Champions of Change" award last April for our work related to Hurricane Sandy recovery efforts. As an organization, we have reached out for assistance in our efforts to grow, and our director has been in touch with a group that's dedicated to helping causes like ours. She called me one evening recently to say she had been contacted by a gentleman who offered his assistance, and who asked if PortSide was the group that **John Weaver** is connected with. The gentleman is **Joe Levie.**

It is a source of great pride for me that a classmate has found us and offered his assistance. With the other two principal members of PortSide's board being Yale alumni, it is heartening to have Columbia more significantly represented at the galley table.

I have heard for the first time from **Richard H. Miller,** who lives in Scottsdale, Ariz. He proudly asserts he is not retired, just unemployed. However, I question that assertion inasmuch as he says he spends a considerable amount of time playing golf and tennis.

It is always gratifying to hear from an unfamiliar classmate. For anyone who has been reluctant to write, please let us hear from you. And please, again, try to make reunion a priority. You can beat me up if I am wrong, but you will never know how good it feels to reconnect with your classmates after 65 years if you don't show up.

See you then.

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Hubert "Buddy" Brandt is still at it full-time in New York City, convincing assessors and courts that, as he puts it, "the real-property tax system is fraught with error." In fact, he likes calling and being greeted with, "Hey, are you still around?" That alone should keep him busy enough, but Buddy and his wife, Frances, have managed to make more than 40 trips to different corners of the globe, often accompanied by children and grandchildren. There are now 10 grandchildren, more than half a dozen of them with Columbia diplomas. Buddy sends best wishes to classmates and would welcome hearing from anyone inclined to contact him. His home phone is 516-431-5498 and business phone is 212-563-2200. Personal email is budandfran@aol.com and business email is hbrandt@bsl-taxcert.com.

The Class Notes from the Winter 2013–14 issue included news of the publication of **Bob Goldsby**'s book, *Molière on Stage: What's So Funny.* Bob reports that the book is now available in paperback.

Gil Hermann is enjoying retirement from his medical practice though he is not inactive. He devotes much time to teaching in the adult education program at the University of Denver, mostly in the biological sciences although he is flexible and is delving into history with a class on the famous Dreyfus Affair. Plus he plays tennis several times a week. On a trip to New York Gil made time for a mini-reunion with JV basketball teammate **Norman Dorsen.**

Dan Kramer '50E has made an offer of special interest to the engineers among us. As you may recall, all engineers were required to take summer classes at Camp Columbia, a Columbia-owned property near Litchfield, Conn. (Years later, the school abandoned the 400-acre site and sold it to the state of Connecticut.) Well, Dan has a collection of 15 black-and-white photos of chemical

engineering class activities that took place there during summer 1946 and he invites anyone who is interested to view and download the jpeg scans by going to app.box.com/s/g45x7cwwtpxf1hd5uxa2. Dan says, "My whole life has been touched and improved by the Camp Columbia experience." In 2008 the residents of Connecticut acknowledged the camp's history by presenting a four-month exhibit of Camp Columbia memorabilia at the Old Town Hall Museum in Morris, Conn.

Ray Scalettar practices medicine in Washington, D.C., and also is a clinical professor of medicine at The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences as well as a master of the American College of Rheumatology. In addition, he presents papers at professional conferences; two of the most recent were "Complications of Hip Replacement Surgery," at the MedStar National Rehabilitation Network in Washington, D.C., and "Alcohol Use and Abuse in the Military," at the Society of Federal Health Agencies in Seattle. It is a busy schedule, Ray acknowledges, but he says, "I hope to continue on this pace as long as I am well and enjoy what I am doing."

Ray and his wife, Phyllis, have managed to do some traveling, including a photo safari in South Africa and a tour of Scotland. He sends best wishes to classmates and lets us in on his discovery of "deep water running" as a means of exercise. It's more interesting than a treadmill or an elliptical, he says, because you socialize with others as you move through the water.

Finally, I am saddened to report that **John Hollander** of Branford, Conn., died in August 2013. [Editor's note: See Obituaries, Winter 2013–14.]

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On November 23, Juliet Macur '92 Barnard, '97J, a sports writer for *The New York Times*, wrote an article titled "Columbia Football's Dogged Futility." Juliet, a former member of the women's rowing team, knows her stuff. She had her share of early morning trips to the muddy waters of the Harlem River for workouts before rushing back to campus for a day of classes. Her comments about the football program were more sympathetic than accusatory regarding who was responsible for a year when the Lions were outscored by 354–66.

Juliet concluded: "Nick Melka ['14], a political science major and defensive lineman on this year's football team, can explain the dilemma. Melka's teams have lost 31 of 39 games, but they continue to be obsessed with winning. Turning in his powder blue uniform has not once crossed his mind. 'I wouldn't quit on any of my teammates because we're all struggling together; none of us are quitters.'"

Thinking about all of this, I can't help recalling our 60th class reunion in June 2011, when some of us had an opportunity to talk informally with Austin Quigley, a gentleman, scholar and much loved former dean of Columbia College. He reminded us of the numeric considerations that go into selecting a freshman class of 500 men and 500 women. We strive to have students of every race and color, students from all (or nearly all) 50 states and many foreign countries, scholars and athletes, musicians and artists, creative kids as well as a few who just squeak under the wire. Those of us who followed the conversation concluded the College was a little school in the big Ivy League where the likes of Harvard, Princeton and Yale can skim off the cream of athletic prowess in the Northeast.

Your Class Notes editor had some recent conversations with members of the Class of 1951 who played football at various levels while undergraduates. **Robert Osnos** '52 GSAS, '56 P&S advised he was one of the "stars" on the 150-lb. Lions, even though he had a short career lugging a pigskin. Bob agrees that talent is key. If a team has it, the coach can smile. Bob spent 48 wonderful years as a psychiatrist. How does he feel about life in New York City? "It's like being let loose in a giant candy store with not enough time and money to taste everything!"

By the way, some of the other 150-lb. stars were **Alfred Byra** and **Donald Beattie**.

And what about Juliet's comment that playing football at Columbia was for job prospects from the network of former players, not on-field glory? "Right on!" says **Peter DeBlasio** '54L. Peter played on the varsity team and says he found his career enhanced in public and private practice as a result of his Morningside campus experience.

While speaking with **Edgar Coghlin** of Richardson, Texas, I discovered that he was captain of the freshman football team. An injury during the season ended his playing days. Following graduation, Edgar became a 2nd Lt. in the Marine Corps and had a successful career in material handling equipment sales and distribution. He continues to enjoy The Lone Star State with his wife, Billye, three children and one great-grandchild.

Some of the additional players on the freshman team were **Jay D. Battenberg, Fred Bernard** and **Joe Zetkulic.**

A final question: Who can identify the players from our class who are in the football photo section of our yearbook, *The Columbian of 1951*?

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Columbia College Today
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Eric Javits '55L writes, "I have recently finished *Twists and Turns: Episodes in the Life of Ambassador Eric M. Javits.* … I devote many pages to my six years at the College and Law School, which alumni, classmates and friends will enjoy. I describe negotiating with Panama's strong man General Omar Torrijos, of saving Ling Temco Vought from bankruptcy, of myriad events and people including, among many others, King Juan Carlos I of Spain, Alexei Kosygin, Sammy Davis Jr., John DeLorean and Dame Margot Fonteyn, and of my highly successful eight years in the field of international arms control.

"I have now retired from law and diplomacy and have embarked on my third career — venture capital investing in the fields of health and energy. My wife and I live in Palm Beach, Fla., where some College and Law School classmates also reside."

Edgar Coghlin '51 of Richardson, Texas, became a 2nd Lt. in the Marine Corps and had a successful career in material handling equipment sales and distribution.

John Benfield writes, "The Benfields, now including seven grandchildren, have been enjoying each Thanksgiving in Hawaii for the past 34 years.

"In 2011 (my 80th birthday), I seized the opportunity to go to Vienna to swim in the 13th European Maccabi Games. My family and I had been fortunate to escape from that city weeks after Hitler's *Anschluss*, and therefore I wanted the current residual fascists in Austria to know that we had been fortunate enough to survive and that the United States had provided me with wonderful opportunities to succeed.

"More recently, this past summer, my partner, Mary Ann, and I had a spectacular time in Uzès, France (Provence) and Belgium.

"I am retired from operating — 43 years of thoracic surgery was terrific, but enough — and I teach at UCLA. Having needed to seek refuge from tyranny, I also am doing as much as I can to educate younger generations about the adaptability that leads to survival, and how resilience can lead to success. Most recently I taught a class as part of Loyola Marymount's course, 'The Literature of Exile and Terror.'"

Bob Adelman, who notes that he has been class president for more than 40 years, writes of happenings in his life since the last reunion: "My wife, Judith, and I spent summer 2012 in the Svalbard, north of the Arctic Circle, watching polar bears, and summer 2013 playing golf near Salzburg, Austria; Passau, Bavaria, Germany; Vienna, Austria; and Budapest, Hungary; and cruising on the Danube River.

"The only dark cloud in our lives occurred when our granddaughter, Kayla Adelman, was not accepted for the Class of 2017. (Kayla would have been the fourth generation of our family to attend.) Since 2017 is the year of our 65th reunion and I will be in Charleston, S.C., attending Kayla's graduation from the College of Charleston, I think it best for me to resign as class president."

Howard Hansen sent the following note in response to the sad news of the death of Dr. **Tom Federowicz** '56 P&S:

"We lost a great classmate and teammate in **Tom Federowicz** on November 27, 2013 — the day before Thanksgiving — after a prolonged illness. Being the careful person Tom always was, we think he planned the timing so that his large family would be present to help celebrate a life of purpose and significance. He was ready 'to go' at dusk on the 27th.

"Tom made friends easily with that big smile and even temperament. Whether it was on the football field, in the Livingston Hall dorm or in the classroom, he was an impressive friend to have!

"He grew up as a coal miner's son in Plymouth, Pa. A bright and conscientious student, Tom earned his M.D. from P&S. On the football field he was a proud member of Lou Little's last winning football team — one of six in the last 66 years. He played both offensive and defensive tackle and was respected for his strong abilities by all team members.

"After a successful medical career in the upstate New York 'triple city' area, he retired in Vestal, N.Y., and built a magnificent getaway lakeside log cabin home about an hour's drive away. He also owned a large tract of land, of which a portion was used to harvest a vegetable garden where family members enjoyed working together.

"Tom will always be remembered as a smiling, warm 'gentle giant.' His trademark traits were sincerity, honesty, loyalty and giving. He was a most impressive husband and family man while raising nine college-educated children and 21 grandchildren.

"To our teammates and classmates, count your age by your friends, not years, and count your life by smiles, not tears!"

53

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Anthony Robinson recently published *New Water*, a collection of 12 short stories of small-town life in the United States. As we read his first tale, my wife, Saralee, and I were seduced by his characters and didn't dare to stop reading until we had finished all the tales. The following excerpt is from the beginning of one of the stories, called "It Can Be Did":

"When I landed a job in 1974 as an assistant professor of English at New Falls State, Kate and I sold our house in Wichita and bought a fixer-upper in New Falls, N.Y. Clearly we needed help. I called a local carpenter named Oliver Moore and he came by the house in an old panel truck a couple of days later. I went out to the driveway to meet him. Before he got out, I saw him lift a small paper bag to his mouth. What was I going to do, fire him on the spot? He was a wiry black man, in jeans and a rough shirt, a long-billed fishing cap on his head. I was skeptical. To see if I liked his work, I told him that I wanted louvers installed in the high peaks of the house. No easy job as I saw it. Oliver looked up at the gabled roof, studied the job for a moment and said, 'It can be did.'

"He worked all day. I was impressed with his work, liked what he charged, and immediately began mentioning other jobs my wife and I wanted done.

"We began seeing a lot of Oliver's truck in our driveway. He put a new roof on the house, built a back porch, finished our basement, sanded floors, installed new cabinets and counters in the kitchen, made built-in bookshelves for the living room and my study, and painted the house inside and out. Kate and I thought the world of Oliver.

"Sometimes after a day's work he and I would sit on the porch, have a beer, talk fishing [and] gardening. I considered him a friend. My daughter, a senior at New Falls High, thought I patronized Oliver and told me in no uncertain terms that I was a 'closet snob,' the college professor in his refurbished Civil War house having a beer with a black man who lived in an ungainly double wide on the other side of town."

The rest of Tony's story and his other yarns are both intriguing and heartwarming. They can be purchased as a paperback or Kindle edition. He is the author of seven other novels and for 34 years taught literature and creative writing at SUNY New Paltz. Now retired, he and his wife, Tatiana, live in New Paltz, N.Y.

Art Elkind writes, "I have reduced my activity at the Elkind Headache Center but remain president of the National Headache Foundation, a not-for-profit. In addition, I'm enjoying Core Curriculum mini-courses for Columba alumni in NYC and travel with my wife, Arlene. I proudly announce that my son, Dr. Mitchell Elkind '98 P&S, has been appointed professor of neurology and epidemiology at Columbia University Medical Center as of January 1."

Anthony Robinson '53, who for 34 years taught literature and creative writing, has published *New Water*, a collection of 12 short stories.

Henry Villaume has retired from his thermal seminar/design business and now spends his time writing political essays about the free enterprise system from his home in Intervale, N.H. Henry describes his authorial self as a "grumpy old man"; he says he came to Columbia with liberal tendencies that were effectively squelched as he rebelled against his Republican father, and he is now a "closet conservative."

Well-informed classmates who would like to consider thoughts about the free enterprise system from an experienced old man would do well to read Henry's intelligent essays. You can write him at P.O. Box 97, Intervale, NH 03845.

Henry writes that his children have suggested that his attempts at retirement have been a failure. They are doing well. His oldest daughter has retired from a career as a management accountant. His oldest son trades fixed income securities in the city but spends weekends in New Hampshire. His youngest son lives in New Hampshire and a grandson is a mechanical engineer with a large control valve company.

Henry's advice to Uncle Sam: "You are broke! Stop spending!" His offer to all classmates: "If you get to southern Maine or northern New Hampshire give us a call and we can get together to eat a meal and chat about old times."

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1
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Things are falling into place with enthusiasm regarding our 60th Alumni Reunion Weekend, set for Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. Our Reunion Committee has been meeting regularly and an exciting program will be finalized soon — perhaps by the time you read these notes. What I do know is that there will be class-specific events throughout the weekend as well as chances to mingle with alumni from other graduation years. Saturday is Dean's Day, which provides an opportunity to attend lectures by some of Columbia's most distinguished professors and accomplished alumni. Our class dinner is also Saturday, followed by dancing under the stars at the Starlight Reception. For more information and to register, go to reunion.college.columbia.edu.

Dick Werksman '58L and his wife recently visited their son, Jack Werksman '86, in Europe. He is a senior climate change adviser for the European Commission. Dick continues to volunteer with the Alumni Representative Committee, through which he interviews Columbia College applicants from Maryland's eastern shore.

We look forward to seeing the Werksmans at reunion.

Ed Cowan and **Clay Black** are members of a men's book club of which Ed was a co-founder eight years ago. Both Ed and Clay have been in touch with **Herb Hagerty,** and the three had lunch at Clay and his wife Moira's home. I understand that Herb is living at Sunrise on Connecticut Avenue, a senior living facility, and would be happy to hear from classmates. His address is 5111 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008.

Many classmates have lived all over the world as a result of their careers. **Ron Sugarman** is a good case in point. He and his wife, Hisako, now live in NYC after enjoying 44 years with the Interpublic Group, which included assignments at corporate headquarters and with several operating companies in NYC, Atlanta, London and Tokyo. It was a good experience; as Ron put it, "never a bore, seldom a chore."

55

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As we move into the spring season, there are many events and celebrations in which the school on the Hudson participates involving students, faculty and alumni: the Dean's Scholarship Reception in early February and the fabulous John Jay Awards Dinner in March (both of which will have taken place by the time you read these Notes); the Student Leadership Awards in April; the Mark Van Doren Award and Lionel Trilling Award, also in April; the Senior Dinner on South Lawn in early May; and Class Day and Commencement in mid-May.

The Sunday before the two aforementioned events is the stirring Baccalaureate Service, held in St. Paul's Chapel, where students speak "from the heart." At the end of May, alumni get a chance to relive their college years with Columbians of all ages during Alumni Reunion Weekend and Dean's Day.

For our class, an important reunion is coming up in 2015 — the 60th (Thursday, May 28–Sunday, May 31). A special shout-out goes to our classmates in the western part of the United States. Some of the guys we are expecting to make the trip are: from Washington, **Ronald Cowan** (Seattle); from Arizona, **Frank Laudonio** (Scottsdale); and from California, **Jim Hudson** (Pacifica), **Ed Rodgers** (Encino), **Harold Seider, Lew Sternfels** and **Shelly Wolf** (all Los Angeles), **Bob Teichman** (Mill Valley), **Ralph Tanner** (Los Altos), **Bob Fairbanks** (Sacramento), **Gary Berry** (Westlake Village), **Charlie Sergis** (Redondo Beach) and **Bill Mink** (Napa Valley).

The reunion will have excellent

food, exciting events and terrific conversation. Details will be coming soon.

Outside of the U.S., Columbia's Alumni Travel Study Program has put together a package for this June called "Discovering Turkish Treasures from Istanbul to Ankara." It promises to be wonderful.

The monthly dinners among members of our fearsome class are still going on. Attendees have been **Anthony Viscusi, Don Laufer** (organizing the event), **Bill Epstein** (adjusting to "big city" life), **Dick Kuhn, Roland Plottel** (trying to get **Richard Ravitch** more involved in Columbia alumni work), **Stan Zinberg** and **Aaron Hamburger.** Others who have attended are **Herb Cohen, Peter Pressman** and **Berish Strauch.**

Allen Hyman took part in a charity bike event in Israel. He finished high in the rankings.

Ralph Wagner's son shared that his father recently celebrated an age that has been (or will be) a milestone for us all — the big 80.

Did you know that **Gerry Pomper** has a blog and has written a new book, *The New York Times on Critical Elections*? It is engrossing.

We ran into **Ezra Levin** (who played basketball for Rollie Rourke — that's a trivia name) at a Columbia basketball game. Ezra was wishing he was still on the court and reliving his long, two-handed set shots. **Richard Ascher** and **Bob Pearlman,** two other devotees of round-ball, unfortunately were not in attendance.

Lew Mendelson took his once-a-year trip to the Royal Kingdom of Bhutan. He unfortunately missed **Stanley Lubman**'s award from the Law School in early January. It was the Distinguished Columbian in Teaching Award, one of many awards Stanley has received.

Sad news to report: **Cal Jenkins** passed away recently in Salt Lake City. Condolences go to Cal's family and friends.

Fellow classmates:

Be of sound mind and spirit.

Get ready for what will be the best 60th ever.

It's getting closer. We are looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Love to all! Everywhere!

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Our November class lunch was held on November 2 at the Yale Club and was hosted by **Len Wolfe.** The luncheon was attended by **Daniel Link, Mark Novick, Ron Kapon, Al Broadwin** and myself.

It seems the discussion among many of us these days focuses on the state of Columbia football. As alums we would like to see a winning team, but are we prepared to do what is necessary to produce one? Len, our class historian and former *Jester* editor, made two tongue-in-cheek suggestions: 1) Have Robert K. Kraft '63 guarantee a place on his New England Patriots NFL team to one graduating senior (good luck, New England Patriots) or 2) introduce a handicapping system, similar to a golf handicap, for our Ivy League football team. This may level the playing field between us and other, better-endowed college football teams. Len also brought an article, salvaged from his recent move, about the average cost and SAT scores from our senior year at Columbia. It indicates that tuition was substantially lower (even affordable) and that the average SAT scores to get into Columbia were significantly higher than I thought, so we were probably a lot smarter than we thought we were.

Our December lunch was held at **Alan Press'** office, where he presented a talk and description of his trip to North Korea, which I mentioned in our last Class Notes. In attendance were **Daniel Link, Mark Novick, Ron Kapon, Robert "Buzz" Paaswell, Jesse Blumenthal** and **Al Broadwin,** in addition to Alan and me. Alan's description of his trip and his observations of the North Korean people were interesting and informative. We were even treated to a video, which is on YouTube, titled "Awesome American Man Dances with North Koreans on May Day," which Alan would like to think is a good representation of his present state of being. In any case, it shows that traveling can be both fun and informative. I invite all our class members to share some of their travel experiences by writing to me at tball8000@earthlink.net; then I can include them in a future column.

Len Wolfe has completed his move from Wilton, Conn., to New Haven. For classmates who would like to keep in touch with him, his new address is 360 State St., New Haven, CT 06015. Len also informed me that his book, *Easy Economics, A Visual Guide to What You Need to Know,* has been translated into Thai, its third foreign language translation. Len reports that he's enjoying the amenities of his new digs and he and his wife, Ruth, are partaking of the educational and cultural events available in New Haven, a college city, where he received his graduate degree.

Lou Hemmerdinger and his wife, Anita, celebrated in mid-December the birth of their ninth grandchild. According to Lou, this is the only event that would bring him back from Florida during the cold NYC winter, from which many of our class members also escape. Lou returned to Florida in late December and is organizing our spring Florida class get-together for our snowbirds, Florida residents and visitors, myself included.

My twin brother, **Maurice Easton,** reports that he enjoyed a week of skiing at Vail, Colo., in early December. Skiing six days in subzero weather with friends from Detroit is not my idea of fun at our age, but it is a testament to how exercise can keep us young.

Ron Kapon, our peripatetic oenophile, had knee replacement surgery in December. Based upon his successful rehab, we are looking forward to his being more active in our summer lunch and tennis outings at **Danny Link**'s club.

Once again, please contact me or **Lou Hemmerdinger** (lhemmer@aol.com) with any news that you would like to share in Class Notes. Also, if you have changed your email or mailing address, please inform the *CCT* staff: college.columbia.edu/contactus. This is part of our mission to keep all class members up to date on class news and activities.

As we start to count down to our 60th reunion, only two years away, I look forward to sharing news of our academic year-end events, among them Class Day and the Alumni Parade of Classes, Commencement and Dean's Day.

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Marty Fisher shares that he and his wife, Doris, arrived at their Boynton Beach, Fla., home on November 15. He writes, "We enjoyed our previous six months in the north, during which we got our ancestral (42 years) home in shape to sell during our next extended visit in 2014.

"Florida is a magical place for us. We open the blinds in the morning to see a beautiful blue sky with cotton clouds scudding across the horizon. Also, we do not have to root for the Knicks, Jets or Giants down here … what a relief.

"A recent article in *The New York Times* sports section had an assessment of the Columbia football program: three winning seasons in the last 50 years. This season the team went winless. [This may be] the first shoe to drop in an effort to deemphasize the sport. Is President Bollinger brave enough to do it?

"Our big news is that Doris' cousin, Chris Eisgruber, was installed as president of Princeton last summer, just in time to try to deal with the meningitis outbreak on campus, a very difficult assignment. …

"Signing off from Boynton Beach; it is time for a swim."

Sad to report that **Sheldon S. Hendler,** a scientist, physician and musician, died in San Diego on November 12, 2012. [Editor's note: See Obituaries.]

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I am sorry to report the death of **Martin "Fritz" Stein** on November 11, 2013, as the result of a stroke. He is survived by six children: Fritz, Kimberly, Susan, David, Peter and Maggie, and 14 grandchildren. His wife, Sheila, a former mayor of Bronxville, N.Y., died earlier in 2013.

Fritz was a member of Sigma Chi and a catcher on the freshman baseball team. He earned his medical degree from Albany Medical Center, went on to specialize in the treatment of kidney disease and was director of the department of medicine at St. Joseph's Medical Center in Yonkers.

Beyond his successful career, there was another dimension to Fritz's life, which was revealed in a packet of newspaper clippings he sent me a few years ago. Just a week after he retired from St. Joseph's, he was deployed on a six-month tour to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany, returning to the colonel's rank he had attained when he retired from the Army Reserves in 1997. Fritz had heard the military was short of physicians, especially at the main trauma center in Germany where he had served four times. So when he offered his services, he was told that if his 69-year-old body could pass the

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physical, the Army could use him.

At the time he shared the clippings, he reported that he welcomed the daily challenges he faced in treating wounded soldiers and their families. He observed that the mostly reserve doctors, nurses, chaplains and administrators who made up the hospital's team were the most dedicated and motivated health care professionals he had worked with. The ability to airlift the wounded directly from the battlefield in Iraq and Afghanistan to the hospital, together with medical advances, had led to favorable results. Fritz said he found it particularly satisfying that some of the most severely wounded soldiers made partial or complete recoveries that seemed almost miraculous from a medical standpoint. Fritz's service was the subject of a profile in the Westchester edition of *The New York Times*.

The annual Homecoming party was festive as always and the guest list was bigger than ever; it was held at the home of **Ernie Brod** and his wife, Ruthie, in Manhattan. Attending were **Barry Dickman** and his wife, Carol; **Joe Dorinson** and his wife, Eileen; **Charles Goldstein;** **Peter Gruenberger** and his wife, Carin Lamm; **Bernie Nussbaum** and his wife, Nancy; **Howard Orlin** and his wife, Anita; **Shelly Raab** and his wife, Judy; **Arthur Radin** and his wife, Miriam Katowitz; **Bob Waldbaum** and his wife, Ruth; **Mark Weiss** and his wife, Joan; Arnie Abrams '61 and his wife, Phyllis; Michael Berlin '59 and his wife, Nancy; **Peter Cohn** and his wife, Joan; Ira Jolles '59 and his wife, Andrea; Linda Lynn, widow of **Ted Lynn;** Elizabeth Ostrow, daughter of the late Allan Gardner '59, and her husband, Jeff Ostrow (Allan was a primary organizer of this get-together for many years until his death in 2013); Ruth Schwartz Cowan '61 Barnard; and Pat Mullins '59, who succeeded Ernie as sports editor of *Spectator*.

Last November saw the publication of *Double Down*, a book about the 2012 presidential election by John Heilemann and **Mort Halperin**'s son, Mark Halperin; it is the sequel to their bestseller, *Game Change*, about the 2008 campaign. Mort's youngest son, Gary, is a yoga instructor; his second book, *Feel Better: Essays on Yoga, Meditation, Mindful Living, and Love*, was published last year.

Elliott Gross sent a brief summary of his medical career. Since graduating from Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University, he has been a practicing neurologist in Westchester County. He is the founding president of the New York State Neurological Society and a fellow of the American Academy of Neurology.

Last year German authorities confiscated a huge art collection held by an eccentric collector named Cornelius Gurlitt, which they asserted had been looted by the Nazis. Gurlitt claimed he inherited the works from his father, an art dealer, but the government says the works were either looted or bought by his father at rock bottom prices from fleeing Jewish owners. In covering the story, *The New York Times* turned to **Charles Goldstein** for expert advice. Charles, who is counsel for the Commission for Art Recovery, which was founded by Ronald Lauder, said he understood the Germans' difficulty in proceeding, saying, "They've got a hot potato. The stuff belongs to Gurlitt, and they have no proof that it's not his; they have to make a determination that it was stolen or taken from the museums." In addition, he said restitution to the families of the Jewish owners was problematic because of the difficulty of proving ownership as well as the statute of limitations.

The class lunch is held on the second Wednesday of every month in the Grill Room of the Columbia University Club of New York, 15 W. 43rd St. The cost is $31 per person. Email **Art Radin** if you plan to attend, up to the day before: aradin@radinglass.com.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1
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I begin by reminding one and all of the 55th reunion of the Columbia College Class of 1959. Alumni Reunion Weekend will take place from Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. Our Reunion Committee is far along in preparing for it and I encourage all of you to attend. For updates on events and to register, go to reunion.college.columbia.edu. See also the reunion preview in "Around the Quads."

I would be remiss if I didn't convey the fact that the College views reunion as an opportunity to solicit funds from you for the Columbia College Fund. You are likely to be contacted by a member of the Gift Committee asking you to contribute. Please be as generous as you can.

I am saddened to learn of the recent death of **George Semel.**

Last month I could not include the full contributions from **Pat Mullins, Luigi Lucaccini** and **David B. Smith.** I am including the rest of their updates here.

Pat writes, "It's been three years since I lost my wife, Jackie. We would have celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in July. I miss her lots and often think when traveling that when I get home I need to tell her about this or that, but then I remember she is not there to share it with. I have four children and six grandchildren. All my children attended Virginia colleges, and three live here in Virginia and one in Washington, D.C. I try to spend as much time as possible with my grandchildren: watching Little League, youth basketball, soccer and volleyball games; I even attend PTA talent shows and have once or twice been to a dance recital.

"I work for Markel Insurance at our international headquarters in Richmond, Va., insuring horses, equine associations and their members, and I travel to horse shows and races around the country. I was president of the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association (now PATH) for six years. This organization has more than 800 riding centers in the United States; it provides equine therapy for challenged youth and for our wounded warriors who have lost limbs in battle. As president I was invited to South Africa and Turkey to help start therapeutic riding in those countries. I also was invited by the government of Taiwan to visit their country, along with nine other national Republican leaders, and meet with their political and business leaders to learn more about their country and its resources.

"A closing note: Bill Campbell ['62, '64 TC] was my 'little brother' at AXP fraternity. As I recall, Bill came to Columbia from a middle-income family in Pennsylvania. Bill succeeded and remembers and appreciates the opportunities Columbia gave him, and has given back to Columbia tenfold or more — a wonderful example for all of us blessed with having received a Columbia education."

Luigi writes, "My plan for longevity, if not immortality, is to associate fiercely with youth and hope the wrinkles go unnoticed or at least unmentioned. To that end, I teach undergraduate classes at the University of San Francisco's School of Management, mostly in creativity and innovation, occasionally in family business. Interacting with undergraduates keeps one on one's toes mentally; it also serves as a shortcut to the latest advances in personal technology devices, which appear in the students' hands … immediately after launch … and often in the middle of lectures.

"One of the things that makes leading a course in creativity attractive is the rich pool of talent in the Bay Area-Silicon Valley corridor. The area is populated with many generous, creative individuals, such as craigslist.org founder Craig Newmark, who are willing to spend an hour as a guest speaker in the classroom sharing their stories and perspectives with our entrepreneurship majors.

Columbia School Designations

In Class Notes, these designations indicate Columbia degrees from schools other than the College.

Arch.	School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
Arts	School of the Arts
Barnard	Barnard College
Business	Graduate School of Business
CE	School of Continuing Education
Dental	College of Dental Medicine
E	The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
GS	School of General Studies
GSAS	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
J	Graduate School of Journalism
L	School of Law
Nursing	School of Nursing
P&S	College of Physicians and Surgeons
PH	Mailman School of Public Health
SIPA	School of International and Public Affairs
SW	School of Social Work
TC	Teachers College

"As an avocation, I have been an academic migrant worker in higher education at Bay Area universities for nearly 45 years, serving as an adjunct faculty member on a part-time basis without tenure. It was interesting, therefore, some months ago to see **S**teve **T**rachtenberg's defense on the *PBS NewsHour* of the right of aging tenured faculty to maintain employment while newly minted Ph.D.s without academic job prospects pile up unemployed at the end of the production line. It brings to mind the economic divide in academia, which mirrors that in our larger society. The current debate about tenure is one sign of the turmoil in higher education that will likely be intensified with the advent of online courses. Meanwhile, we adjunct faculty members muddle along doing our thing, many of us mainly because we enjoy it, waiting for the dust to settle.

"On a different front, personal efforts to maintain some level of physical health include enrolling in PE and weight-lifting classes at the local junior college. There, the college's former football coach screams at us continuously to 'put more effort into it,' reminiscent of Joe Stanzig, PE instructor at Columbia in the '50s, to whose similar, well-intended verbal blasts I now realize I should have listened. After two years of classes and ongoing exhortations, the pain has become tolerable, the sag and belt size are somewhat reduced, and the hearing is still OK. At the same time, with a nod to the inevitable, my wife and I are getting our (financial) affairs and so on in order while we still retain a modicum of rationality. It turns out not to be so easy to face the task of completing health care directives and end-of-life instructions. But, once done, it is a relief."

David was writing from Cabrerets; he reports, "Cabrerets derives its name from the Langue d'Oc word for goat. There is a tale that a beautiful young girl once went to the lord of the chateau to plead with him that her aged grandmother no longer had the means to pay her taxes. The lord, overcome by her beauty, tried to have his way with her. The girl, to save her honor, committed suicide. Since that time, at the New Year, a white goat appears atop the cliffs. The locals swear that it is the spirit of the girl who took her life many years ago rather than surrender her virginity to the lord.

"Cabrerets also is famous for its paleolithic cave, Peche Merle, which is full of beautiful paintings. The cave was discovered by the old man who lived next door when he was a boy. Another cave has been discovered nearby and archaeologists believe some of the paintings are by the same hand that painted in Peche Merle. Sadly, it's not yet open for viewing.

"We spend a quiet time here. My wife, Helen, paints and I read and write. After 3½ months in the western and northern isles of Scotland, the food is exquisite. This is fois gras and crepes country, with several Michelin star restaurants in the surrounds."

By now, David should be home, having made a subsequent stop in Venice.

David Kirk '60, '69 Arch., a retired Navy captain, attended the September ceremony marking the return of Naval ROTC to Columbia.

Gibbs A. Williams writes, "I came [to Columbia] from Miami Beach. Upon walking the path onto the campus for the first time I didn't see the fantasized rolling green hills I had eagerly anticipated; instead I saw the dirty grey walls of Low Library. Far from conquering, I fell into a deep depression. Cutting through my fog and lifting my spirit was a barrage of illuminating ideas, conveyed through the inspired teachings of my professors. After reading Plato during my first week of philosophy class, I was convinced I had come face to face with the absolute truth. The second week I had the same awesome reaction reading Aristotle's *Ethics*. I again had the same reaction reading Spinoza's *Ethics* the third week. By the fourth week I was overwhelmed with information overload.

"During the holiday break of my sophomore year I experienced two major events. One, I read Will Durant's *The Story of Philosophy*, which deeply resonated, validating my search for meaningful connections and convincing me that my major had to be philosophy. And two, I started what was to become a 35-year journal. The first entry was: 'Plato said the unexamined life is not worth living. I say: the overly examined life is incapable of being lived.' The thrust of my life after graduation from Columbia has been to adequately resolve this problem. I would eventually learn that I was overly reliant on linear scientific logic. To obtain and sustain a balanced life I would have to learn how to mix messy feelings with my ideas resulting in what I refer to as experiential logic.

"Aware of my divided self, I initiated the first of three dedicated attempts to organize my chaos in psychotherapy — the third was successful. Determined to fix myself, I considered majoring in psychology, but as the psychology department in 1956 insisted that all behavior could be explained by reinforcement theory alone there was no encouragement to spend time and energy pondering unscientific speculations of the so-called mind. Fortunately, I discovered Freud and psychodynamics in Salters bookshop. Don't get me wrong, my four years were not all doom and gloom. Representative of these meaningful events was attending the inspired lectures of Professors [Charles] Frankel ['37, '46 GSAS] and [Sidney] Morgenbesser among others, and walking after class with some classmates, listening with rapt attention as Professor Zito brilliantly analyzed literature using Freud's structural approach. I took very seriously his and their continual encouragement to be true to myself."

As we're running out of room for this column, the rest of Gibbs' submission will appear next issue.

Lou Stephens writes, "I'm working on getting another show for my paintings either in NYC or Mexico City. Daughters Phoebe and Annette had quite an impressive display of their jewelry during September's Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week. Their Anndra Neen trademark has been well received — you can look for them online. They soon will be joining e-commerce, so you can buy, buy, buy. My wife, Karen, was accepted as a fellow in The Writers' Institute at the CUNY Graduate Center and will work on short stories and her screenplay. In September, there will be a posthumous showing of my mother, Annette Nancarrow's, paintings at The Taubman Museum in Roanoke, Va. Cheers to all classmates, especially fencers."

See you all on campus on May 31.

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In the words of President Lee C. Bollinger, the ceremony held on September 30 on the Columbia campus marked a historic moment. It was the return of Naval ROTC to Columbia after an absence of four decades. The University's involvement in NROTC began in 1916, and during WWII more than 20,000 naval officers were trained at Columbia. The protests on campus in 1968, motivated by a variety of issues with anti-war sentiment predominating, resulted in the dissolution of the University's agreement with NROTC and the program came to an end in 1973 when the last Columbia students received commissions. In 2011 the University Senate voted to revive the relationship after Congress repealed the "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

The return of NROTC was in large part due to the determined efforts of College alumni who had received their commissions on campus. Many of them would not have been able to afford to attend Columbia had it not been for their NROTC scholarships.

Present at the ceremony in full dress uniform, which he proudly informs fit perfectly, was **David Kirk** '69 Arch. David writes of the event:

"The NROTC program was warmly welcomed back to the Columbia campus at a superbly executed ceremony at Casa Italiana, the same venue as our 50th reunion class dinner. The celebration of NROTC's return included many ceremonial traditions: a Navy band, a color guard parade of colors, and sideboy piping and bells to announce the arrivals of President Bollinger and senior dignitaries. In attendance were contingents of more than 50 midshipmen from SUNY Fort Schuyler NROTC and Columbia's NROTC officer candidates, as well as NROTC faculty staff and Navy brass, all in summer white uniform (including myself as a retired Navy captain), plus Columbia NROTC alumni. The ceremony included excellent speeches by Bollinger, Rear Admiral Jim Lowe '51, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Juan Garcia III and others, followed by a reception on the Casa Italiana terrace."

David contrasts this ceremony with the atmosphere he encountered on campus when he pursued post-graduate studies. "The cordial welcome sure was a far cry from the anti-war demonstrations more than four decades ago in spring 1968, when I witnessed the sit-ins and teach-ins behind the barricades of Avery Hall, where I was a post-grad in the Architecture School after my active duty Navy tour and while serving in the Navy reserves."

Three quarters of a century. Many classmates are about to celebrate, or have already, that passage of time and that's a matter of no small consequence. Three quarters of a century. A phrase resonant with overtones of veneration and reverence. Yet who among us can say that no traces of adolescence yet inhabit their hoary frame? How will you be marking your 75th?

Richard Friedlander had a celebratory dinner with several of us: **David Kirk, Art Delmhorst** and **David Goldman,** who favored us with his photo album of class reunions.

Bob Berne '62 Business celebrated at Walt Disney World along with a party of eight that included children and grandchildren.

Those who attended our monthly class lunch were asked to describe our most memorable personal event of 2013, apart from the 75th milestone. Bob offered two: Walt Disney World with family present, and an educational, thought-provoking trip to the Lower East Side Tenement Museum to commune with family past. At the museum, Bob examined a roster of residents in the district that included the names of his grandparents and their employees, immigrant residents in buildings that no longer stand. Bob related how his grandfather arrived twice in New York circa 1901–02: At first he was turned around and sent back to Europe because he did not have a job waiting, but he was persistent and, successful upon his second voyage, he set about to begin a new life.

In the family narrative it was the grandfather who imparted a lesson in economics. Having just enough money for a first installment payment, he acquired a cheap watch, then promptly took it to the pawn shop where he hocked it for its full value. Now with sufficient cash in hand, he put a down payment on an expensive watch, which, again, he hocked for its full value. His resources enlarged by leverage, he was able to furnish and fixture a dairy restaurant that prospered. Bob didn't say who inherited the cheap watch or who inherited the expensive watch, but no elaboration was necessary for us to understand that Bob inherited through the telling of the family legend a knowledge of finance that served him well at the Business School and later in his business career.

For **Victor Chang,** the memorable events of 2013 were the visits with his grandson (5) and one occasion with a circle of friends who have remained in constant contact since their teens. Of the 12 friends, seven were able to reune for four days in Cancun during the Year of the Tiger. For many, their ties date back generations to family relationships in China.

Sad news reached us in December: **Wayne Case** died in Pittsfield, N.H., on February 1, 2013, following a long illness. Born in Haverhill, Mass., Wayne attended the College on an NROTC scholarship and served in the Navy for 22 years. He retired with the rank of commander. Upon his retirement he and his wife, Susan, moved to Pittsfield. He held several positions in the area and enjoyed sailing and camping. He is survived by Susan; two daughters; one son; 10 grandchildren; and two recently arrived great-grandchildren.

David Kirk informed me that Wayne had been roommates with **Orlin Trandahl** and **Paul Nagano,** to whom I reached out by email to inform them of Wayne's passing. Both promptly responded with memories of Wayne: Paul from his home on the East Coast in Boston, Orlin from his home on the West Coast in Washington, and each unbeknownst to the other remarked on Wayne's regional dialect.

Orlin lost track of Wayne after both went into the Navy but remembers their undergraduate days fondly. He writes, "While at the College, Wayne worked at the Men's Faculty Club (now Faculty House) as a bartender. He helped me get a job there, also as a bartender. We served the Castros, the Lodges and others at various Columbia functions. (I got to serve Harry Truman with Grayson Kirk, who was University president from 1953–68, and a professor of history, in a private room.) Wayne also worked the football concessions. He was at all times a perfect gentleman. I never heard him use profanity or utter a bad word about anyone." Orlin offers that while he and others were footloose and fancy-free, always looking for girls, "Wayne was very much in love with a girl named Sue, whom I assume he married. He was always loyal to Sue."

As for that dialect that left a lasting impression, Orlin remembers this exchange: "When we were roommates, Wayne said that something was too 'shot.' I said it looked fine to me. Wayne repeated that it was too 'shot.' After several go-rounds of similar comments from me, Wayne finally said that it was not long enough. That's when I learned a little about New England accents."

Paul recalls, "Wayne was the first New Englander I remember meeting at Columbia, and we used to joke about the pronunciation of his hometown, Haverhill, Mass. I must have said, 'Have-er-hill,' when he corrected me: 'Hayvril.' There were a few exchanges about some of the names of streets and towns in Hawaii after that. I thought Haverhill was pretty exotic, then. But I've now lived in Boston for 46 years, and all of that has become familiar territory both geographically and in pronunciation."

To Susan, Wayne's wife of 53 years, their family and friends, we send our deepest condolences.

Bob Meyers '62 is enjoying retirement and taking continuing education classes in landscape architecture and horticulture at his local community college.

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Judge **Jose A. Cabranes,** a member of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, in New York, was appointed by Chief Justice John Roberts to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court on August 9. His term expires in May 2020.

According to *The New York Times,* Jose's appointment was announced as some lawmakers were working to change the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA), which gives chief justices unilateral power to assign federal judges to the 11-member Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court and its three-member review panel, to provide greater ideological balance. The court hears arguments on surveillance matters from the Justice Department, with no opposing lawyers to offer contrary views or file appeals.

On the FISA review panel, Jose joins another Democratic appointee, Judge William C. Bryson of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

The full article, "Newest Spy Court Pick Is a Democrat but Not a Liberal," was published in the *Times* on August 20.

Please send news! Write to me at either address at the top of the column or send your note through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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From San Francisco, **Bob Meyers** (rmmeyersaia@sbcglobal.net) writes that he is enjoying retirement from his planning consulting practice but that "adjusting to not working is still very challenging" — not only to himself but also to his wife, who now has him "under foot" more. "To keep the brain engaged and fingers facile," Bob continues, "I am taking continuing education classes in landscape architecture and horticulture at the local community college. I get a kick out of being a senior citizen with the much younger students there. The professors like having me in class so they can call on someone with real-life experience. We enjoy living in the Bay Area, with its Mediterranean climate, and we enjoy year-round hiking, biking, swimming and gardening. The older I get, the more I appreciate our Core Curriculum. It really did teach us how to think, how to put ideas together and how to express them."

Russ Abbott (russ.abbott@gmail.com) teaches computer science at Cal State-Los Angeles. He is particularly enthusiastic about a paper he recently finished, saying, "It applies computer science concepts to problems in philosophy. As it was recently submitted for publication, I can't point to a journal reference, but a draft is available at philpapers.org/rec/ABBAAI. I'm also in the middle of organizing a 60th birthday party for Debora Shuger, my wonderful wife."

Russ loves bicycling but confesses never to have taken a multi-day tour, which I asked him about. "Sounds like a great thing to do," he says. When Debora and I were in Tokyo 1½ years ago, I joined a one-day bicycle tour of the city and liked it so much I kept the bicycle for a second day. In Tokyo people ride on the sidewalks, which are wide enough most places to ride, even in downtown. It would be terrible to ride in the streets."

At the end of 2012 **Alex Firestone** (alexfirest@aol.com) retired fully from his last job, as program officer for high energy physics at the National Science Foundation. For some years, in his words, "I had been giving out (or at least, recommending to give out) U.S. taxpayer dollars to American universities and laboratories to support research in elementary particle physics. Previously, as a professor of physics, I had been taking such dollars for EPP research, so that was a nice reversal. I had given up teaching and research some years earlier, becoming a professor emeritus and resigning all my lab appointments, including the CERN lab in Geneva, Switzerland. It's the largest high-energy physics lab in the world. Recently the long-sought Higgs particle was discovered there and resulted in a Nobel Prize.

"Thus, for the first time since I was 14, I am completely without a job, and I love it! I'm enjoying life in New York City — what better place is there? — and writing a

graduate-level textbook on quantum mechanics. It keeps me off the streets at night."

Bart Blanchard (jblanch61@gmail.com) retired in 2009 and moved with his wife to Denver, because, he says, "All nine of our grandkids live west of the Mississippi. Our main hobby is our grandchildren and their activities. I spent a few years with the Denver Curling Club, and I now am active with the Denver Cribbage Club. We travel when health and energy levels permit."

Daniel Fife (d_fife@verizon.net) practices epidemiology related to the adverse effects of medicines and works for Johnson & Johnson. He summarizes, "A wife, three grown children and two grandsons (1 and 4). I live in Merion, Pa., just outside Philadelphia."

In 2012 **Harry Green** (harry.green@ucr.edu) received the Roebling Medal of the Mineralogical Society of America, its highest honor. He continues to work at the University of California, as he has for 43 years. He no longer teaches but maintains his laboratory, where he and his graduate students work on the physical processes by which earthquakes occur. Harry remains active in the Senate of the University of California, where he's on the Academic Council and chairs the university-wide Committee on Academic Personnel. Harry and his wife, Manuela, have nine grandchildren, seven of whom (along with their parents) shared Thanksgiving. "Chaos reigned," he recalls, "but a great time was had by all."

John Garman (john@garman.net) begins with an anecdote: "Wore one of my old Columbia sweatshirts to the supermarket (in Durham, N.C.). A young cashier asked if it really was from Columbia College in NYC. I said it was, and she asked for help on how to apply. I asked her about her grades, and she replied that she was a junior and had straight As and was interested in what Columbia has to offer. Got the wheels rolling with the Admissions Office! They were most helpful."

This November, John and his wife, Nancy, plan to visit China for three weeks: Beijing, Xian and then a Yangtze River cruise back to Shanghai. They first went to China in 1998 with a delegation led by Wayne Smith, founder of Friendship Force International, to open Chinese homes to foreign visitors. (In a typical Friendship Force program, a local chapter prepares an itinerary of cultural activities, inviting members from chapters in other countries to come and stay with them in their homes for up to a week.) "Now," John says, "Nancy and I will just be tourists seeing a country many of us only have read about. We have five grandchildren growing like weeds (oldest 14; youngest 3): two boys, three girls; two here in Durham and three in Minneapolis. Keeping busy. Recently finished my 525th goodwill visit with members of the Chapel Hill/Carrboro Chamber of Commerce. Lots of fun."



Members of the Class of '63 gathered at the Gould/Remmer Boathouse before Homecoming for a surprise presentation/celebration thanking Paul Neshamkin for his work on their 50th reunion last spring. Left to right: Stanley Yancovitz, Ed Coller, Bob Heller, Henry Black, Frank Partel, Bruce Kaplan, Doron Gopstein, Neshamkin, Tom O'Connor, Don Margolis, Lee Lowenfish, Doug Anderson, Larry Neuman and Jerry Dwyer. Not pictured but also in attendance were Steve Clineburg and Phil Satow.
PHOTO: JESSICA ROSSO

Hilmi Toros is a freelance writer and explorer from bases in the southern Turkish coastal town of Fethiye and the tiny island of Sovalye, which has only 50 houses and does not have any vehicles. Hilmi sails and travels to wherever the wind or sun takes him. He's anxious to keep in touch with classmates and welcomes meeting them whenever business and pleasure (or sun and wind) bring them to Turkey. His email is wordsmith sailor@hotmail.com; his website is maisondesovalye.com.

From Italy, **Anthony Valerio** sent this email in December: "I'm on tour: lecturing, reading, teaching in Rome, Bologna, Genoa, etc. If any of you visit Italy between now and next spring, drop me a line on my website: anthonyvalerio.com. In his last email [asking for Class Notes updates], John asked about our plans. At least for me, the less and less of a future I sense, the more immediate becomes the present."

Jerry Kessler '63 is planning to perform one of **John Boatner**'s compositions in 2014 with the Topanga, Calif., orchestra, which Jerry conducts. The piece is *Cello Ludens* — a work for cello solo and orchestra. John composed it in 1969 and published it in 1999. John thinks Jerry will probably play the cello and John will conduct.

Crawford Killian continues to have fun writing about Canadian politics, environmental issues and books for The Tyee (thetyee.ca), an online magazine based in Vancouver. Three of his "old" science fiction works were recently published in Chinese. In case you were unaware, Crawford says, "Science fiction is a little-known genre in China but my publisher and I are hoping that combined Chinese and English texts will attract college-age readers."

Crawford and his wife revisited Scandinavia this past fall, traveling to Helsinki, Stockholm, Copenhagen and Malmo. They found some places, like the high-tech city of Espoo and the Copenhagen Metro, to be intensely modern; other places, like the Finnish architects' retreat at Hvittrask, looked up to date, even though they are a century old. To Crawford, "going back into Sweden on the Metro and a commuter train over the bridge took only 40 minutes, and Malmo was worth the trip. Copenhagen was gorgeous but made the equally gorgeous Stockholm and Helsinki look like bargains."

On his blog, H5N1 (crofsblogs.typepad.com/h5n1), Crawford tracks outbreaks of new diseases such as H7N9 and MERS and natural disasters such as Super Typhoon Haiyan, which pose public health problems that, he says, "we had better start solving."

He continues, "You never really retire from teaching. At the moment I'm discussing dissertation issues with a super-smart young Iranian woman, helping a Qingdao English professor with the fine points of translation and dealing with usage questions from all over, thanks to my blog Ask the English Teacher (crofsblogs.typepad.com/english). But probably the best parts of my day are walks in the woods with my dog. We watch the changing of the seasons, the surprisingly effective logging operations of the pileated woodpeckers and very rarely the resident barred owls as they glide from tree to tree. Occasionally we get black bears in the neighborhood but it's the skunks you have to watch out for. It's not exactly The West End, or even Riverside Park, but it's pretty good."

Just before my deadline in mid-December, **Bernie Patten** sent this delightful note: "Somewhere the Declaration of Independence mentions the right to pursue happiness. My wife, Ethel '63 Barnard, and I have taken that right seriously and sponsored many family vacations for our kids, grandkids and in-laws to Puerto Rico, Greece, Italy and France. Last summer we all went to Ireland for three weeks and returned home by crossing the wide and weltering North Atlantic aboard the *Queen Mary 2*. This was the first time that I traveled to Ireland on my Irish passport, which came to me courtesy of my grandmother, Mary O'Connor, who was born in Mayo, and my aunt, Joan Patten, who worked hard assembling the necessary documents. Of course, none of the documents made absolute sense, as my Irish relatives were in the habit of embellishing, exaggerating and fibbing. But the Irish Consulate understood: 'If it made sense, we would know right away that it was not genuinely Irish.'

"Last year I again taught logic at Rice. On the final exam there was

one 95, one 90, a 70 and then 36 grades below 60! The students had a lousy teacher. *Truth, Knowledge, or Just Plain Bull* and my other logic book, *The Logic of Alice*, continue to sell well. The truth book has been translated into Chinese. For reasons not understood, the Chinese version has been a best-seller and has routinely been between second and eighth place in self-help books there. By contrast, *Health is Wealth: Small Changes Reap Big Benefits*, a summary of current scientific information about longevity, nutrition and exercise, has sold only 23 copies, most of which have probably been purchased by my mother!"

Classmates, especially if you haven't written in a while, please get in touch.

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Homecoming this past October was a great day for the Class of '63. The Alumni Office organized a special pre-game event just for our class at the Gould-Remmers Boathouse. We were invited for a champagne toast to salute our recent 50th reunion but when I arrived I was surprised to find that a large group of my friends had actually used the event to surprise me with a presentation of a beautiful bronze lion. **Doug Anderson, Steve Barcan, Henry Black, Steve Clineburg, Ed Coller, Jerry Dwyer, Doron Gopstein, Bob Heller, Bruce Kaplan, Lee Lowenfish, Don Margolis, Larry Neuman, Tom O'Connor, Frank Partel, Phil Satow** and **Stan Yancovitz** were among the group who came, and I thank them, the Alumni Office and everyone else who organized this surprise. Now, I suppose, I will have to start planning our 55th!

Richard Tuerk writes, "I was delighted to read in the Fall 2013 Class Notes **Frank Sypher**'s reminiscences of the person we called the Yumpkee Man. I'm sure that the label we used for him was a misnomer (and that it's spelled with a 'p'): we were the Yumpkees; he wasn't. I'm very jealous that **Mark Dintenfass** used the Yumpkee Man in his first book; I wish I had used him in mine, a study of Henry David Thoreau. He would have been at home in the company of Thoreau, Emerson, Margaret Fuller and especially Amos Bronson Alcott and Jones Very. I'd love to hear more reminiscences about him and the uniperversity, the sophmorons and the pyumpkees that inhabited his universe.

"I enjoy my retirement in Commerce, Texas, where my wife, Roz, and I have lived for 41 years. In June we celebrated our 50th anniversary. I volunteer for our local hospital district, read, exercise and even write a little."

Gary Shapiro '70 GSAS writes, "I wish I could have attended reunion. I was wrestling with some medical issues as well as preparing for a demanding, seven-week trip to Turkey, Bosnia, Croatia and Greece that began later in June. I'm hoping to hobble to the 60th! I retired in 2011 after 41 years of teaching philosophy full-time (at Kansas and then Richmond), preceded by five years as a Columbia preceptor and instructor while finishing my Ph.D.

"Retirement has not been quiet. I had an intensive five-week teaching gig in beautiful Stockholm shortly after leaving work, and I continue to write, publish and give talks. A few years ago my then-colleague, artist Tanja Softić, invited me to write an essay for the booklet accompanying her series 'Migrant Universe.' The collaboration flowered and now we are happy companions. The reason for our recent travel was Tanja's research for an artist's book on memory and loss in her native Sarajevo, and the trip began and ended with my conference talks in Assos, Turkey, and Athens. My three children from two marriages are distributed around the United States and each has given me two wonderful grandchildren.

"When I left Columbia to teach elsewhere I was carrying the torch for the Core, having been not only a student but also an instructor of Humanities A and Contemporary Civilization B. Although it was always an uphill struggle to convince hidebound departments to think outside of their silos, I like to think that I had some impact on a few students (and maybe even colleagues). I seem to have taken root in Richmond, Va., something I never could have imagined in the heady days of the NYC '60s. New Yorkers are often quite surprised by the vibrant art and food scenes here. The setting helps me to work on one more book, many smaller projects and my urban garden."

David Alpern reports a special reason to enjoy this past Thanksgiving: "Call it my '63 Ring Cycle," he writes. "More than 40 years ago I tried to master the mystery of Sunfish sailing off the beach at Chatham on Cape Cod with my *Newsweek* colleague Ed Kosner, later editor of *Newsweek*, *New York Magazine*, *Esquire* and the *Daily News*. But he and I were flops at sea. After we tipped over and pulled the boat to shore, I realized I'd lost my class ring, with no reasonable chance of retrieval. And somehow I made it through life all the years since.

"But the week before Thanksgiving, Paul [Neshamkin] emailed to say that someone had found a Columbia '63 ring with DMA engraved inside the band and that I was the only class member so initialed.

"Turned out the finder was a young, retired information systems consulting exec named Jim Wirth. Jim lives in San Francisco but summers in Chatham, where he passes much time behind a water-proofed metal detector. He found the long-lost ring at that same beach, while standing knee-deep at low tide and digging 18 inches under the sand.

"It cleaned up well; he contacted Columbia to report the year and initials, exchanged emails with Paul, then me, and handed it back two days later during a previously scheduled trip to NYC. Maybe gold shrinks underwater over four decades, but more likely my digits have fattened along with the rest of me, so it only fits on my little finger now.

"This is actually the second time that ring has been lost, found and returned. One winter in the early '60s, while working 'overnights' at United Press International in the *Daily News* building, I pulled my gloves off in the elevator and didn't notice until 3 a.m. that the ring was gone. Some two years later a woman called to say her dad was a printer at the *News* and had found a Columbia ring at some point, but that she had just thought of contacting the school with the initials as a means to track down the owner. I picked it up the next day.

"Guess I'll have to find a more creative way to lose it a third time. Suggestions?"

Lee Lowenfish is continuing his love of baseball scouting and all things Branch Rickey (who, after all, perfected the farm system based on good scouting and talent evaluation). In mid-December he hosted a panel of three baseball scouts in a lively discussion of the profession of baseball scouting at the Greenwich Village gallery Bergino Baseball Clubhouse. He tried to avoid rubber-chicken stomach while attending hot stove league baseball banquets in Hazelton, Pa. (home town of Joe Maddon, Tampa Bay Rays manager), Portsmouth, Ohio (Rickey's home area, where the remarkable Portsmouth flood wall murals are located), and Great Neck, Long Island. [Editor's note: See article by Lowenfish on Columbia baseball and coach Brett Boretti in "Roar, Lion, Roar."]

I have the sad duty to report the death of **Richard L. Knopf** in Manteca, Calif., on September 15, 2013.

Remember, our regular class lunches at the Columbia University Club of New York are always a great place to reconnect. If you're in NYC, try to make one of the next ones, scheduled for March 13, April 10 and May 8 — it's always the second Thursday. Check cc63ers.com for details.

In the meantime, let us know what you are up to, how you're doing and what's next.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1
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Our 50th reunion is approaching, and I hope you're saving the date: Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. **Steve Case** and **Bob Friedman** are co-chairing the Reunion Committee, which has been meeting in conference space graciously provided by **Steve Rodner** at his law firm in Manhattan, and subcommittees also are at work. Those involved in the planning at this writing are **Joel Abramson, Adam Bender, Bernard Catalinotto, Lionel Etra, Marty Isserlis, Howard Jacobson, Gil Kahn, Fred Kantor, Beril Lapson, Peter Lowitt, Marshall Meyer, Jeff Newman, Steve Rosenfeld, Merv Rothstein, Dan Schechter, Steve Solomon, Peter Thall, Allen Tobias, Ivan Weissman** and **Marty Weinstein.**

I think the event will be the sort of memorable occasion a 50th reunion should be. There will be a range of multi-class and class-specific events that we can take part in. Saturday is also Dean's Day, which offers the chance to relive our classroom experiences through lectures with some of Columbia's finest professors. It all leads up to our class dinner on Saturday, followed by dancing under the stars at the Starlight Reception.

For more information and to register, go to reunion.college.columbia.edu. See also the reunion preview in "Around the Quads."

Steve Rodner has been named the chairman of the New York State Bar Association's section on entertainment, art and sports law.

Ron Padgett has published a new book, *Collected Poems*, which gathers the work of more than 50 years. In 2012, he was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Poetry.

Allen Tobias is proud to report that he has started a thriving business in career counseling and presentation campaigns for entrepreneurs and people seeking new jobs or new careers. He was inspired by career facilitation breakfasts he attended at the Columbia Alumni Center. He can be reached at tobias newyork@aol.com.

Avi Decter writes, "In June 2012 I retired after 13 years as executive director of the Jewish Museum of Maryland in Baltimore. This small but lively institution has won national recognition from the American Association for State and Local History and was the recipient of numerous grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

"My wife, Naomi '64 Barnard, and I spent the year after my retirement selling our longtime home in Haddonfield, N.J., and moving into a lovely apartment in Philadelphia. We have very much enjoyed our new home and our new lifestyle.

"For 15 years, we have punctuated our calendar with summer stays at our place in Addison, Vt., a former dairy farm where we live in a restored horse barn, replete with a resident colony of brown bats (who have dibs on the place, having resided there since circa 1910). The viewscape out over the Champlain Valley and toward the high peaks of the Adirondacks is a constant pleasure.

"Our married son, Eliav, his wife, Alyce Callison, and their boys (9 and 7) live close by, so we get to see them regularly. And we have stayed in touch with family and with friends going back to our middle school days. I look forward to seeing classmates at reunion. Until then, all good wishes to the Class of '64."

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These columns sometimes serve as a slow-motion message board. In the Fall 2013 Class Notes, **Gene Spiegel** commented that he had lost touch with **Dodge Ely,** and I asked if any reader had information about him. David Stern '66 responded, "Dodge was in business in the Bay Area with his friend, Joe Willingham, a former Columbia grad student, in the '70s and '80s. I had occasion to communicate with Joe a few years ago and asked him about Dodge, who had been a good friend of mine in the '60s. Joe informed me, and I am informing you, that Dodge passed away sometime in the '90s. Sorry to be the bearer of bad news, and even sorrier that Dodge is no longer with us."

Also in the Fall 2013 issue, **Steve Steinig** (sns24@optonline.net) made a comment about **Dan Waitzman**'s (danwaitz@sprynet.com) prior reflections as to whether we would wear beanies on "graduation" from "senior citizenship." Dan in turn has responded with the following:

"I should be most regretful if what I intended as a harmless witticism and a sardonic commentary on the politically correct term 'senior citizen' caused anyone any distress. Such was certainly not my intention. Myself, whenever I buy a ticket on the Long Island Railroad, I always request an 'elderly ticket,' rather than a 'senior citizen' ticket — but that is just my personal preference. Nor did I intend to make any connection whatsoever between the solemn Jewish skullcap or *yarmulke* (also known these days as the *kippah*, although the term is fairly new to me) and the humble beanie of our early College days. Although my knowledge of my Jewish heritage is sadly deficient, I do recall the wearing of yarmulkes at funerals and in the synagogue, especially by orthodox and conservative Jews; but I cannot say what the customs are in regard to their use in the dressing of the deceased for burial. Like **Steve Steinig,** I was not asked to provide one for my father's funeral.

"On a less solemn note, I recently uploaded to YouTube my electronic MIDI realization of my latest attempt at musical composition — a trio sonata movement for flute, viola d'amore and bass, with optional harpsichord accompaniment. My venture into the world of YouTube offers an electronic version of the score, synchronized with the music. The URL is youtube.com/watch?v=RV34dCF1B4M."

Bill Mitchell '64 sent a report of a celebration in Charleston, S.C., billed as the "14th Annual Tribal Gathering of the Columbia Beta Theta Pi Brothers," to celebrate seven decades of **Jack Strauch**'s life path, achievements and recent diagnosis and recovery from leukemia. Bill points out that Jack, a Columbia footballer, was selected as All-East and a two-time All-Ivy linebacker. Jack is a semi-retired comptroller for a local packaging company in Charleston. Also in attendance were Jack's wife, Shirley Jones; **Jim Boosales** and his wife, Bonnie; **Gene Chwerchck** and his wife, Sherry; Dave Filipek '67 GS and his wife, Bev; **Bill Brown** and his wife, Nicole; and **Bob Donohue** and his wife, Mairead. Several members of other 1960s classes also attended: Len Defiore '64 and his wife, Maryann; Harry Hersh '64; Bill Mitchell '64 and his wife, Sandi; Phil Moore; Paul Kastin '66 and his wife, Rosthema; Bob Klingensmith '66 and his wife, Nancy; and Bill Corcoran '66 and his wife, Kathy.

The festivities began with a "welcome to old town Charleston" dinner at the Marriott's Sapphire Room, reinforced by Saturday night's toast/roast event at the Harbor Club and finalized with a bon voyage lunch at Jack's beautiful bay view home. Photos should be available on the participants' social media pages. Bill noted, "Sadly, the Beta attempt to recapture Fort Sumter to avenge the historic Civil War loss failed due to limited group enthusiasm for a noble goal. Additionally, the Beta group found that the traditional toga party robe has long been outlawed in Charleston social circles."

Ron Padgett '64 — a 2012 finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Poetry — has published *Collected Poems*, which gathers the work of more than 50 years.

The ING New York City Marathon was run on November 3. *The New York Times* wrote a story about the heightened security around the race in the wake of April's Boston Marathon tragedy. **David Obelkevich** was featured in the article, which read in part: "Dave Obelkevich, who has run every New York Marathon since 1976 — a record streak — recalled how close the fans got to the runners in 1976, the first time the marathon branched out of Manhattan to touch all five boroughs. Coming off the Queensboro Bridge, on First Avenue in Manhattan, fans had strayed so far into the street that it left only a narrow pathway for the marathoners. The runners had to form a single-file line. That was electrifying, Obelkevich said, because those fans gave the runners so much of an emotional boost."

Congratulations to Dave, and may he run many marathons.

The December 11 nomination of his successor brought news that **Flemming L. Norcott Jr.** is retiring as a justice of the Connecticut Supreme Court.

Columbia's Senior Society of Sachems celebrated its centennial at a dinner on October 18 at the University Club in New York City. In attendance from our class were **Jay Woodworth, Bob Kronley, Jim Murdaugh, Alan Green** and myself, **Leonard Pack.** I asked Jay (woody17620@aol.com) for an update; here's his report:

"It was great to see you [Leonard], Jim, Alan and Bob at the Sachems' 100th. The Krons was the guy who, at our class' 45th reunion, buttonholed me and asked what Sachems was going to do for our 100th. I replied with something like, 'I have no idea.' He then said, 'Good luck; I'm based in Atlanta.' Thus a bunch of us in the NYC area got together and did our best to plan for the group's centennial event and lay the groundwork for its second century.

"Roger Lehecka ['67, '74 GSAS], Columbia's retired dean of students and our adviser, will probably be very upset to see all this Sachems stuff in print, but the organizational effort put forth by a bunch of old fogies, plus a large number of youngsters who graduated in the '90s, the '00s and the pre-teens, was really impressive. We've all suffered major disappointments in life when dealing with committees but Sachems' planning committee worked well. Everyone had a specific area of responsibility in planning for the centennial and everyone delivered. The dinner itself was a sell-out success. Along the way, we raised a fair amount of seed money for scholarship assistance and the group's ongoing expenditures. I'm very proud of the group.

"In addition to that crunch in September and October, life has been very hectic. Or is it that our productivity declines so much as we age that it takes a helluva lot longer to do what we used to do in our 30s and 40s?

"**Larry Guido** swung through New York at the end of September and we got together to drown some sorrows. He had just lost his wife, Jane, to the side effects of a decades-long battle against rheumatoid arthritis. The specific occasion was one of great sadness but we found some good old times to remember."

Jay continued:

"I'm mostly retired but still am involved in the business economics profession. [As I write,] I will take off in two days for a round of quarterly meetings in Washington with about four dozen of my colleagues from around the world. We meet, analyze the world's economic policy problems and solve many of them. Unfortunately, not many people listen to us. We live in times where facts and knowledge are not really essential for decision makers, especially in the Congress.

"The railroad that lives in my train room is thriving, and I apologize for not having made more

video clips (available on YouTube under the channel 'WoodyNJ') in a while. I'll catch up this winter. I have several new videos cued up in my mind. The priority has been to complete the construction of a couple of new rail lines to enhance the excitement and realism. I've thought about dropping a note to *The Wall Street Journal* writer who visited my train room several years ago and invite him back for an update.

"My two middle-aged 'children' are doing well. One is a lieutenant commander in the Navy, based in Washington state. The other lives 'down da shorah' in New Jersey and is about to close on the purchase of a new house. Both are married and my wife, Susan, and I have three grandchildren.

"It's only a 1½ years until our 50th class reunion. I'm looking forward to catching up with many old friends!"

David Paglin '66 will direct *The Trial of Franklin D. Roosevelt* at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., in May.

Ken Wasserman (kenwass@gmail.com) sent a nice note: "I have two kids, Sara (19) and Mike (23), and am happily married to Amy Berlin, who is a court lawyer in family court. We have lived in Brooklyn Heights since 1993. I practice criminal law in Manhattan and invest in micro-cap stocks. I travel a bit to attend micro-cap conferences. The criminal practice is nothing fancy — run-of-the-mill state court crimes — but it is very social, which balances nicely the computer-driven investment work. I have kept up with **Mike Moore,** who is an inspiration."

Peter Wallenstein (pwallens@vt.edu) reports, "After teaching history in the 1970s at the college level at various places in New York, Canada, Japan and Korea (pretty special experiences all), I landed at Virginia Tech 30 years ago, where I've had wonderful students and gotten to write a number of books on U.S. history. I'm still at it. Shortly I'll be sending off final copy for a second edition of my *Cradle of America: Four Centuries of Virginia History* (the subtitle will change) and *Free to Marry: Loving v. Virginia*, both to be published in 2014.

"I'm in touch with classmates I met during freshman orientation in 1961, among them **David Osher** and **Ahovi Kponou,** though we've been distressed as one by one our finest teachers, including James Shenton '49, '54 GSAS and Alan Westin, have left us.

"I still live in Appalachia, albeit in western Virginia instead of rural New Hampshire — what I long ago came to refer to as '19th-century Northern New England' (I tell people I was an affirmative action admit, as the only applicant to the College my year from that time and place)."

Serge Wind (swind2@nyc.rr.com) writes, "While working for AT&T and Lucent Technologies, I was fortunate to have been given responsibility for formulating plans for an array of fascinating industry issues and analytically challenging problems in a rapidly evolving external environment. Activities included the analysis of major mergers and the design of variable compensation for 110,000 management employees based on a measure of shareholder value. I also served directly as a senior adviser to the CFO and v.p. of strategy on restructuring and other sensitive areas of corporate concern requiring out-of-the-box thinking, including the design and structure of the seven Baby Bells formed as part of divestiture. We encountered exciting times and intriguing challenges in forging paths through the thicket of deregulation.

"For the past nine years, I have been teaching graduate finance, statistics and math courses at DeVry and at NYU's School of Continuing and Professional Studies. I also have been writing papers and preparing presentations on the factors underlying the financial and banking crisis of 2008–09 and the Eurozone sovereign debt fiscal crisis, with emphasis on the effects on U.S. unemployment.

"I enjoy regularly attending the Met Opera and New York Philharmonic, along with playing bridge."

66

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I made a pre-Christmas trip to Los Angeles with my wife, Kathy, to see our grandkids and their staff (that's our son, Casey, and his wife, Ann). Interesting how we related to 1- and 3-year-old boys after being out of practice, but it seems that the kids fall for the same tricks we pulled on their parents. We did notice a bit less energy on our end though enthusiasm hasn't declined.

Our youngest, Rich, is in the middle of 2L at Richmond and doing well with law journal and learning a southern accent.

I enjoyed getting together at Homecoming with **Tom Chorba, Harvey Kurzweil,** Ed Malmstrom '65, Ed Botwinick '56, **Tom Harold, Ron Brookshire,** the family of the late Steve Franke '67E, '69E and other alums.

Announcement: I am chairing the recently formed Committee for Athletic Excellence at Columbia. It is dedicated to improving competitive and non-competitive athletic capability and performance at CU. We welcome any inquiries or members; you can write me directly or go to lion-sports.org.

Steve Weinberg writes, "Four married kids and seven grandkids. Work split between affordable housing and Habonim Dror camps. Hoping we're about to end this 30-year clobbering of the 99 percent and rebalance our society. There's still no other country with anything like the DNA of the United States, so we've got to return to respectability and leadership, even as planetary concerns increasingly trump national concerns. Let's all sit and watch around the earth as we turn the large hadron collider back on again and think what that means for our planetary civilization."

David Paglin will direct *The Trial of Franklin D. Roosevelt* at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., in May. It's part of an event commemorating the 75th anniversary of the turning-away of the liner *SS St. Louis*, which was carrying more than 900 Jews fleeing Hitler's Germany in May 1939, and who were thus forced to return to a Europe on the eve of WWII. A number of those passengers who survived the Holocaust will attend.

Gary Foulks writes, "The last issue led me to catch up with **Jim Larson,** who is now on the East Coast, as am I. In December 2011, I became the Emeritus Professor of Ophthalmology, University of Louisville, where I was the Arthur H. and Virginia T. Keeney Chair of Ophthalmology and Visual Services for eight years. I continued at the Veterans Administration Medical Center as a cornea specialist for the next year but in November 2012 I retired from clinical practice. My wife, Sims, and I moved to Wilmington, N.C., to join our daughter, Beverley; son-in-law, Michael; and granddaughter, Haley (18 months). We have been having a blast babysitting Haley … I am editor-in-chief of *The Ocular Surface* journal and consult to the pharmaceutical industry. Sims says this means I can't claim to be fully retired but I think I qualify. My goals for this year are to spend more time fly fishing and surf-fishing the Carolina coast."

David Matthew writes, "The big news is that the latest family genius, Ellis Marie Matthew-Williams, arrived on October 16. Her sister, Gene Aurelia, greeted her with glee. This evens the score for my daughters at deuce: Elizabeth has a son and a daughter, and Sayre has two girls. I am happily managing some friends' finances, hoping to honestly beat TIAA. (So far, very good.) Missed my Little Rock Central High reunion but caught up with some alums while on a cross country wedding trip. Still single, but open for nominations for candidates."

Michael Garrett writes, "The organization I co-founded a few years ago and now lead, Columbia Alumni Singers, is thriving and a number of classmates are participating, among them **Bruce Trinkley** and **David Tilman.** Our group is the choral home of those who sang in any group while a Columbia student, faculty member or administrator in any school or division. There are 2,000 of us on the mailing list, and we serve and support Columbia and today's choral singing on Columbia's campuses. We distribute music over the Web and rehearse, socialize and perform under the direction of distinguished conductors. We perform college songs, folk songs, spirituals, classical pieces and more. Our signature event each year is our reunion concert during Alumni Reunion Weekend (we've had as many as 100 members make joyful noise together there). All '66 classmates who sang are invited to join us in making Columbia Alumni Singers a thoroughly enjoyable, harmonious, valued and valuable component of Columbia tradition."

For more information, write Michael at michaelgarrett@earthlink.net.

Elwyn Schaefer writes, "Many years ago I chose the University of Colorado Law School over Columbia and headed west. I've been in Boulder/Denver ever since. No regrets. A synopsis of my professional career may be found at elwynschaefer.com. In December, I became of counsel to Bachus & Schanker, a Denver-based law firm with 20 trial attorneys and 50 members.

"My Nebraska-born-and-bred wife, Barb, and I live adjacent to a 165-acre city park with views of Pike's Peak, the Rockies and the Denver skyline. We have three daughters and two granddogs. We recently spent quality time with **Lew Davis** (North Carolina), **Ken Rollston** (California) and **Tom McMahan** (also North Carolina).

Expect to re-up shortly with good buddy **Jim Larson** (Delaware). It's been a fun time since leaving my little town of Patchogue, on Long Island, in 1962."

Rudy Von Bernuth reports, "The Indian summer of my long career continues, with another extension of my assignment in London, this time through September 2014, to manage the transition of a newly acquired medically focused charity, Merlin, into Save the Children. More walks to work past Buckingham Palace and through St. James's Park."

Joe Steinberger ponders: "At this point, the news from our cohorts is inevitably dimming. I wonder if any classmates are as foolish in old age as I have been. My first and only child, Takuma (meaning, pathfinder), is 6. Is he the youngest child of the Class of '66? [RF: I do believe Joe wins this award.]

"My wife Keiko's sushi bar has been reviewed as one of the 100 best restaurants in the U.S. (*OA Guide to US Restaurants*). If any classmates come visit us in Rockland, Maine, Takuma and I will gladly take them to dinner at Suzuki's."

Ron Brookshire writes, "I became a first-time grandfather on May 27, 2013, to Harper Jeanne; her mom is my daughter Ashley Brookshire. Then I became a grandfather again on November 13, 2013, to Kenzie Britley; her mom is my daughter Amanda Bogarad."

Cliff Rosenthal is finishing a two-year stint at the new Consumer Financial Protection Bureau in Washington, D.C., focusing on low-income issues after closing out a successful 32-year career running the National Federation of Community Development Credit Unions. He will be back in Brooklyn for good in March.

Philip Myers reports, "I live in Winchester, Mass., with my wife, Anne Hoffman '70 Barnard. We have three sons who are busy writing software, performing and composing music. David and his wife, Diane, are parents of 7-month-old Andrew. They live in Brooklyn, as does Josh, while Jon is in Oakland.

"Since 1984 I've been an astrophysicist at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics in Cambridge, researching how stars form through observations, computer simulations and theoretical models. I have had a great time doing this. I also like jazz and have played keyboard with ensembles and rock bands. I enjoy writing songs and am inspired by Gershwin, Ellington and Jobim.

"I've kept in touch with classmates including **Dan Gover, Jeff May, Cliff Rosenthal, Gene Fierman** and **John Akula**. I'd be glad to hear from other classmates, too (pmyers3@comcast.net)."

Columbia Chinese lunch leader **Mark Amsterdam** relates, "I guess it's time for an update on my Columbia kids. Matt '10, '13L works at the New York State Attorney General's Office in the civil rights bureau. He is a Columbia College Fund Class Agent and serves on the board of Columbia College Young Alumni. Lauren '07, '12 GSAS earned a master's and her article, 'All the Eagles and the Raven in the House Say Yeah: (Ab)original Hip-Hop, Heritage and Love,' was published in the *American Indian Culture and Research Journal*. She is a community activist and educator.

"I still collect antiquarian books focused on the earliest English printed books (1482–1600), still work at the law, still live in NYC and am still active with alma mater."

One of our best round-ballers and top foul shooter on the squad in '66, **Ken Benoit,** touched base. You may not remember but we came within a whisker of the Ivy crown senior year, thanks in large part to Ken. He says, "I'm entering my eighth year in retirement at our lake house in Bristol, Conn. Health remains good although the handicap has climbed up to 10. My wife, Mary, and I have welcomed two grandsons in the past two years, which is a delightful experience. One big surprise this year was my induction into the New England Basketball Hall of Fame (the ceremony was held in Worcester, Mass.) — only 50 years late! I had almost forgotten that era of my life. My daughters, Kerry and Erin, are nurses at Bristol Hospital, following in Dad's footsteps."

Charles Pitchford wrote in for the first time: "You may remember me as **Barry Nazarian**'s roomie. If not, I will certainly understand, as the older we get…

"I remember reading the note Barry wrote a while back, mentioning names of acquaintances I met directly through Barry and my managing the student laundry and/or singing in the (in)famous rock band we had (Brewmen and other names). Oh, those nights at Alpha Chi Rho!

"My short bio: Since leaving Columbia and the all-night parties with Barry, I worked in Harlem as a social worker (yes, continued partying and playing in different rock bands). I moved to Canada to 'settle down' and worked in social services in Toronto for almost 30 years. At one time I ran a welfare office in that city. At the end of those many years I wound up writing social assistance policy for the Ontario government.

"I married in 1969 and still am married to Susan, and have two lovely children in their mid-30s. We moved to Vancouver in the mid '90s, where we finally found our true passion: running our own travel business. Since then, we have traveled to parts of the world too numerous to list.

"We've been blessed having both our children living nearby.

"Any of you inclined to continue the conversation, drop me a line at pitchford@telus.net."

Tom Chorba and his wife, Celeste, announce that their grandson, Orson Thomas Chorba, arrived two weeks early, on December 22, weighing 5 lbs., 5 oz.

Stefan Rudnicki writes, "My audiobook career has continued to develop and amass honors. It now stands at more than 3,000 audiobooks produced, directed and/or narrated. Recent milestones include being named a 'Golden Voice' by the magazine *AudioFile*, kind of a lifetime achievement award. This year I was named 'Best Voice' in science fiction for the second year in a row. I also received a Grammy for producing and directing Janis Ian's recording of *Society's Child: My Autobiography*. I'm planning the launch of a new audiobook publishing initiative."

Philip Shopoff reported on the passing of **Leonard Don Diego,** which was noted in the column last issue. "Lenny, with whom I went to school all the way from third grade through Columbia, was a dedicated educator … a Columbia man through and through."

Randy Bourscheidt says, "This Oklahoma native never 'graduated' from New York, where I've lived happily since college days. I thank Columbia for introducing me to this great city, which I have tried to serve in various ways. I spent a decade in the Cultural Affairs Department, the culmination of a city government career that began at the Department of City Planning. I was president of the Alliance for the Arts for more than two decades, doing research into the economic and social benefits of the arts and organizing responses from the cultural community to crises such as AIDS and 9-11. To enhance my enjoyment of New York, I spend weekends upstate in Columbia County, about as far from the Hudson River as my dorm room at Furnald was. Write me at randall.bourscheidt@gmail.com."

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Tony Greco '76 GSAS, '82 Business writes, "After a 25-year career with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, I've been happily retired for just over four years. Free of the business of actually having to work for a living, I've had the time to put my Columbia political science Ph.D. to use and revisit longstanding intellectual interests.

"The first fruit of that activity is my book, *Chomsky's Challenge to American Power: A Guide for the Critical Reader*, which came out in December. Now, while I'm trying to come up with a new book project, I'm filling in my spare time with a blog, Talking About Politics (tony-greco.com).

"I still live in Manhattan with my wife, Celia, and still love being here. I'm writing this note from a great place where I've spent more than a little time over the past few years: Butler Library."

Please write. It won't take five minutes, and your classmates want to know how you are and what you are up to. You can send news directly to me at either of the addresses at the top of the column, or submit news via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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Pete Janovsky wrote a few months ago with a brief account of the Marching Band's activities during our Alumni Reunion Weekend.

"On the Saturday of reunion, there was a cross-class Columbia University Marching Band gathering in Carman Hall. Quite a few former band managers, and others from the '68 period and all the time since, attended and reminisced about the 1964 'moral decay' and other halftime shows, 3 a.m. Barnard fire drill concerts, Carnegie Hall appearances and other landmarks of the modern band era.

"A group of alumni, including Dan Carlinsky '65, J. Donald Smith '65 and Sam Rowan Barnard '96, have helped form a Columbia Band Alumni Association. It's an IRS-recognized 501(c)(3) charitable organization, with Sam as president. The association plans regular events for alumni and provides support for the current band, such as encouraging donations of instruments by alumni. Non-alumni also can donate instruments if they happen to have a clarinet, trumpet or E-flat double-reed contra-bass sarrusophone gathering dust in the attic (see columbiabandalumni.org/instrument-drive.html).

"The band alumni association arranged a reunion at Homecoming,

held October 12. Alumni joined the present band members in material ranging from '60s-era classic fight cheers to the White Stripes' *Seven Nation Army*. Band alumni also sang a full-throated version of *Sans Souci* (to the amazement of current, non-band students in the crowd, who could not believe anyone knew the lyrics, or that there were lyrics).

"Other directors of the association are Steven Greenfield '83, Mark Tabry '07E, Morgan Robinson '08 and Kevin Gould '12. The advisory board consists of Joe Klein '58; Ed Coller '63; Dan Carlinsky '65; J. Donald Smith '65; Dennis Klainberg '84; Cathy Webster '87; Betsey Benagh '94, '94E; Mike Schiraldi '00E; David Albert '09E; and Stephanie Tarras '10 Barnard."

I was at a Columbia basketball game recently, and the band was there in large numbers, performing with great cheer.

It was great to hear from **Nigel Paneth,** who observed that his nationally ranked Spartans (he is a professor of public health at Michigan State) almost lost to the Lions in basketball in Lansing, Mich. He was flummoxed, for sure. He also acknowledged the whipping the Spartans took out there in wrestling from the Lions.

As I write, I'm planning to have a lunch with **Bill McDavid.** Bill is general counsel at Freddie Mac and continues to amaze me with his energy and involvement with some of today's financial issues. It seems like yesterday that we were listening to Bill and his band perform on campus. But in fact, it was almost 50 years ago. I really shouldn't note that, I suppose. (Although, to that point, I've been thinking of our having an event in the fall to celebrate our good fortune of landing on Morningside Heights in fall 1964. Maybe a grand dinner in the city, either on- or off-campus, modest in scope but with entertainment. You may recall John Lindsay was running for mayor when we arrived. Any interest? If so, write me: arthurbspector@gmail.com.)

I chatted with **Greg Winn** a few times in the last few months and am grateful for the years of good humor and friendship with him.

I heard from some classmates about the fate of football this past fall, and clearly the program had a major setback. **Jim Shorter** and **Ira McCown** commented on it, among others. **Paul de Bary** and I went to games this year.

I will be diplomatic and note only that the women's swim team has beaten Harvard, Yale and Penn so far this year. Tennis also has been fabulous, for example.

I was negligent with respect to the last Class Notes column and this one; I have been swamped with personal stuff and work, so I am sorry for the relative lack of news. The next one will be back in full force.

This being the first column of 2014, I wish all of the class — as well as family, partners, spouses, children and grandchildren — a healthy new year. I figure we all have about 30 more years to go, at least, so I get more time to do this column.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1
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Jonathan Schiller '73L was elected on December 19 as co-chair of the University's Board of Trustees and is slated to become chairman upon Bill Campbell '62, '64 TC's retirement from the board. Jonathan is the first member of our class to achieve this distinction and, for that matter, our class is among the few to have a classmate achieve this distinction. In general we are well represented on the board, with **Michael Rothfeld** continuing as a trustee. Jonathan is the father of three sons, all of whom graduated from the College. In his non-Columbia role, Jonathan is managing partner and co-founder of the Boies, Schiller & Flexner law firm. Jonathan has received both the John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement (2006) and the Alexander Hamilton Award (2012). Classmates will have the opportunity to congratulate him at our 45th reunion (see more later in this column).

This news-seeking columnist always appreciates an assist from the general news media, which happened twice in this cycle. *The New York Times Book Review* of December 23 featured **Paul Auster**'s latest, *Report from the Interior*, a companion memoir to his 2012 *Winter Journal*. This new book is a history of Paul's psychological development. The review calls him "one of the great prose stylists of our time."

The second item appeared in mid-December in numerous sources. **Judd Gregg** has, after seven months, stepped down as CEO of the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association. Now, here is my difficulty; I am filing this column at the end of December for the Spring issue. What Judd plans to do next is the subject of current speculation but may be answered by the time this issue is published. So, I leave for a later column a report on Judd's next step. Judd, by the way, also was a recipient of a John Jay Award (1993).

"Some news/reflections, both happy and sad," from **Doran Twer:** "For the second consecutive year, **Ron Tarrington** traveled six-plus hours north to see my son, Aden, compete as a wide receiver for Gettysburg. As fate would have it, Ron's back was turned to the field, looking for me in the stands, on the first play of the game from scrimmage, as Aden hauled in a 62-yard TD pass. (Aden finished his career as the leading receiver in school history in total yards, career-receiving TDs and receiving TDs in a season — and led all active players in NCAA DIII in 2013 in career yards per catch — 19.2.) As I write this, Ron is getting a new knee. I hope all goes well.

"Wanted to pay public respects to Rich Arcaro '72, who passed away in January 2013. I roomed with Rich at the Psi U house senior year and traveled with him for a dozen weeks across the country in summer 1971 on our so-called 'hippie trip' — tales of which I've embellished and then bored my family and friends with throughout the ensuing decades. Gas was 25 cents a gallon when we reached California — a good thing, as the truck we purchased from the bread man in Fairview, N.J., got only six miles per.

"Rich was a person of tremendous physical and mental strength. A loyal friend. Better yet, he knew how to repair the truck. But Rich could be painfully shy, and on day four of the trip he killed a deal I negotiated to travel along to Aspen (upon invitation) with two gorgeous (at least that's the way I remember it), lapsed (at least that's the way I imagined it) Mormon girls in a green MG who followed us into a Colorado gas station and proceeded to engage us as they purchased a dollar's worth of gas. I only wish Rich were here so I could tell him that I still don't forgive him. Rest in peace.

"Also, congratulations to **Joe Santosuosso** (we share a birthday two hours apart), who pedaled from the northernmost point of Maine — where America starts, according to the sign he posted on his 'crazyguyonabike' site — to Key West, Fla. An unsupported solo ride of just about 3,000 miles from August 11 to November 4. Amazing."

John Bernson is returning home to Armonk, N.Y., following 3½ years of bank advisory and corporate finance projects in the Middle East. He keeps in contact with **David Alger,** on Martha's Vineyard, and **David Parshall** and **Ron Dronzek,** in NYC.

Jesse Goldner attended the memorial service for **Mark Drucker** in St. Louis on November 9, and he provided this report: "Family members, friends and former students recalled Mark's love of movies, TV, reading, history, trivia, learning and talking. He was an inveterate viewer of C-SPAN. As they said, 'He knew a lot about a lot and never stopped learning.'

"They recounted his many efforts to help members of various groups, in addition to his family, about whom he cared in particular. These included the poor and underprivileged, and local mystery writers. He was described as a 'kind and gentle man and an omnivorous intellectual' who had a unique ability 'to know how to be a friend' and to demonstrate 'unconditional acceptance' of others. Mark was a humble person who was known for always treating others with dignity."

This issue is the last one scheduled ahead of our 45th Alumni Reunion Weekend, and I urge all classmates to attend. The dates are Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. The Reunion Committee is trying to plan a calendar of events that will maximize the opportunity for classmates to catch up with one another. For encouragement, I've gone back to my September/October 2009 column, which reported on our 40th reunion; here are some reactions to that one, beginning with my own:

"I would sum up the reunion in these few words: 'really good conversations and respectful remembrances.' Our goal all along was to create opportunities for

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classmates to spend quality time with each other, and we met our goal. The lunch program was the subject of singular attention during the planning, and **Rich Wyatt** suggested and then hosted the main event: an open microphone session called '40 years in 3 minutes.' After a few volunteers kicked off the discussion, a majority of attendees shared their thoughts and exposed their feelings about the reunion, the College years, and that long time in between. What struck me was the cohesiveness of the class, comprised of individuals who saw the world in different ways back when and who have traveled varying paths since. And yet, we were a group who felt like connected classmates."

From **Jeffrey Klein:** "A reunion virgin, I'm happy to report a highly satisfying experience at our 40th. Reconnecting with old friends was an expected pleasure. Unexpected was how much pleasure I felt connecting with classmates I'd never really known well while in college — **Jim Alloy, Jerry Avorn, William Bonvillian** et al. Repeatedly I was struck not just by the intelligence of our classmates (that's a given), but also by how much work for the public good each had done in his chosen field. On the plane ride in, I'd read our yearbook — unopened for 40 years, with a nasty mildew smell as proof. It's a striking, iconoclastic volume. How many yearbooks sport a funny audio/video script from a class dropout announcing he's a sell-out? Post-strike interviews with several professors and with Provost Truman are at once insightful, nakedly confused and poignant. At the reunion, before I could congratulate **Roy Feldman,** our yearbook editor, on how well he and the *Columbian* staff had captured that historical moment, Roy said he'd re-read the volume the night before and was swamped with second thoughts about what he should have done differently. This tendency to consider and reconsider showed up in many reunion conversations. Could it be the true core of our curriculum?"

From **Eric Witkin:** "I thought our reunion was a great success, because so many of the people that I know and admire showed up at **Mike Schell**'s terrific cocktail party on Thursday, at the cocktail party at SIPA the next evening and at both lunch and dinner on Saturday. **Jerry Nadler** gave a very interesting talk on a highly controversial issue at Saturday's dinner. Many classmates gave fascinating accounts of their Columbia and post-Columbia lives after lunch on Saturday, and even the weather cooperated with a sunny day and a beautiful evening after dinner on Low Plaza. I didn't make it to any of the theater events or lectures but for me reunions are about people, and many splendid people in our class made it a great success."

From **Rod Reef '69E:** "This was my most memorable reunion to date. We had many chances, both formal and informal to talk to both Engineering School and College classmates. I was able to meet, talk to and listen to interesting life events from people I had not seen in many years. Although Dean Hubbard's economics lecture was interesting, it is fast receding from memory. This is not true for the interactions with the members of our class. I am glad we adopted **Rich Wyatt**'s idea for the Saturday afternoon event and I will remember the value of our time talking and laughing together when we plan the next reunion."

And from **Jim Weitzman**: "Reunion was good to me. I enjoyed it immensely. … I especially found touching the luncheon comments of **Jory Berkwits,** sitting at my table, who stood to ask for forgiveness that he had essentially gone through most of his four years without interfacing with the rest of the class. My visit to WKCR knocked me off my feet: I walked into a studio only to lay eyes on four guys, most of whom I hadn't seen in 40 years, arrayed around a table, recording recollections of the past: **Steve Silberblatt,** Roger Berkley '68, **Bob Papper** and the famous Robert Siegel '68 of NPR, who gave up his seat for me. A half-hour down memory lane recorded on, gasp, a reel-to-reel recorder."

As this column goes to press, our Reunion Committee is working hard on outreach, aiming to raise a great turnout for the weekend. Hope you join us and thereby avoid the nagging concern about what you missed. For more information and to register, go to reunion.college.columbia.edu. See also the reunion preview in "Around the Quads."

A *New York Times Book Review* article about Paul Auster '69's new memoir, *Report from the Interior,* called him "one of the great prose stylists of our time."

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Every once in a while you get news about a classmate from other sources. I was reading my Columbia Law School magazine and learned that **Eric Eisner** had started and funded a program in Los Angeles that links promising students from low-income communities with some of the city's top schools. His Young Eisner Scholars program, which now also includes a branch in NYC, funds SAT prep and covers costs that financial aid packages miss. YES scholars who attend schools such as Columbia and Stanford then come back to recruit other promising students to the institutions they attend. Eric notes that these YES graduates are inspirational to their younger peers, saying, "The glamour radiates from successful students with whom other kids can identify."

Eric deserves thanks and congratulations for his good work! All this, following a successful Hollywood career that included a 10-year stint as president of The Geffen Co.

My good friend **Frank Motley** reports, "With 19 grandkids and two great-grandkids, I think I still own the title [for most grandkids among classmates] but that could have changed. CC and Humanities taught me that if you have enough grandkids, you will one day be famous yourself."

Larry Rosenwald sent "a quick note to say a) I'm making an anthology of American antiwar and peace writing for the Library of America and b) I had the pleasure of a lively, fruitful conversation about the anthology with **David Lehman,** whom I hadn't spoken with in some time and was delighted to be reconnected with!"

Tom Barrett is a contributing editor to *Arcadia,* a literary magazine out of Oklahoma City. His *Borrowed Time,* a "fictive but not untrue" exploration of his and his family's past written under the pen name Thomas Shane, is a monthly feature of *Arcadia*'s Online Sundries blog (arcadiamagazine.org).

Steve Stahler writes, "I continue to pursue my passion in astronomy and am embarking on the second edition of my 2004 book, *The Formation of Stars.* For recreation, I tramp up and down the hills of California and sketch humans and others around me. I would enjoy hearing from classmates!"

You can write to Steve at stahler@astro.berkeley.edu.

Joel Richard Glucksman proudly reports the birth of his third granddaughter (no grandsons yet). He writes, "The kids all live in Los Angeles, which gives me and my wife, Freddie, the excuse to visit the Left Coast regularly. Otherwise, I do bankruptcy law here in New Jersey and am waiting for the economy to turn around."

Robert Launay writes, "I had a heart attack in July but am recovering well."

Tom Keenan's new book, *Technocreep: The Surrender of Privacy and the Capitalization of Intimacy,* will be published in March. He writes, "It's a chilling look (excuse the hyperbole; that's what authors are supposed to do, I'm told) at the ways in which technologies — from surveillance cameras and online tracking to sensors inside our bodies — are eroding what's left of our privacy, often with our consent but without our full understanding. The revelations of Edward Snowden and Chelsea Manning have given us a glimpse into some of the ways this is being done by governments. This book lifts the covers on how we ourselves are surrendering our most personal information. *Technocreep* is based on more than 25 years of research in computer security, along with attending and presenting at hacker conferences such as DEF CON."

David Lehman wrote a follow-up note about the launch party for his new book. He says, "The official publication date for my *New and Selected Poems* was November 5, and a day later the launch reading was held at the NYU Bookstore on Broadway and Waverly Place. The space was crowded, and it was gratifying to see some old pals from Columbia College days including **Bill O'Brien, Jim Periconi,** Steven Silberblatt '72 and Jamie Katz '72. The presentation began with my reading a half-dozen of the new poems from the book. Then Ken Tucker of NPR's *Fresh Air* interviewed me about my career and my work. He is a veteran interviewer, very skillful, and my only regret is that the interview was not taped. At his suggestion I read certain poems (such as 'Nirvana' and 'Any Place I Hang My Hat') to illustrate points. The last poem I read, 'Story of My Life,' provoked a man in the audience to leap to his feet and shout 'Bravo!' I am happy to report that my book received favorable reviews in *The New York Observer* and *Publishers Weekly.* Interviews with me ran on NPR and PBS, and Garrison Keillor read my poem 'Radio' on his show *'The Writer's Almanac' with Garrison Keillor.* So it was quite a week.

"In addition, the November 16–17 issue of *The Wall Street Journal* contained a Masterpiece

column — under the heading of 'The Palpable Presence of Time' — that I wrote about Wordsworth's great poem 'Tintern Abbey.'"

Finally, **Bill Schur** writes, "After 23 exciting years with the Southwestern Bell, then SBC, now AT&T legal department, I retired at the end of December. I'm considering whether to teach, write, consult, do legal work pro bono, volunteer or just quietly disappear."

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If you are not receiving the '71C eNews and would like to, please email me.

Remember Jonathan Schiller '69, '73L, reserve forward-center on the great Lions basketball teams of our Columbia years? He has been appointed co-chair of the University's Board of Trustees, along with current chair Bill Campbell '62, '64 TC, and will succeed Bill upon Bill's retirement from the board. Jon is a managing partner and co-founder of the law firm of Boies, Schiller & Flexner, where he focuses on complex litigation and international arbitration. Dave Newmark '70, David Boies and now Bill are three formidable names with which to be associated. But I'm sure that Jon's name is also.

Fellow class correspondent Bernard Sunshine '46 attended an event and filed a report for us. Bernie was president of the Columbia College Alumni Association in the 1970s, subsequently was the senator who represented University alumni in the Columbia University Senate and in the '90s was president of the University's Alumni Federation. He writes:

"**Lloyd Emanuel** is now an official part of the City of New Rochelle's (N.Y.) 325-year history. In an impressive ceremony in October, Lloyd was inducted in the city's Sports Hall of Fame, sharing the distinction with home-grown sports luminaries so honored in recent decades. The inscription honoring him is permanently installed in the City Hall.

"Lloyd was cited for his stellar career as a tennis player, starting at New Rochelle H.S. and continuing at Columbia, where he was captain of the tennis team and had a successful record in tournaments; he later was a college coach, professional coach and instructor.

"In 2011 he was named Man of the Year by the United States Tennis Association for his lifetime contribution to the game. In 2001 Lloyd received the George Seewagen Award, given to the Eastern tennis pro who best exemplifies the spirit of excellence in competition, sportsmanship and love of the game. Internationally ranked Butch Seewagen (George Seewagen's son) was his Columbia coach (1969–79), and it speaks of his high regard for Lloyd that he had Lloyd present him for his induction in the Eastern Tennis Hall Of Fame in 2005."

Juris Kaza wrote in December: "Since last [reporting to '71C], I have changed 'jobs.' I left the Latvian news agency LETA after six years and became a contract stringer for *The Wall Street Journal* and Dow Jones Newswires. I worked for the latter in Frankfurt and Stockholm in the early 1980s when it was called AP-Dow Jones Newswire. So it was a kind of return to the fold.

Lloyd Emanuel '71 was inducted in the New Rochelle (N.Y.) Sports Hall of Fame for his tennis career as a player, college coach, professional coach and instructor.

"Journalism is something I hope to do for several years more. I like it and I will not be joining the chorus of those from '71C who will happily announce their retirement in the next year or two. Good for them, but I'm not ready. As far as I am concerned, the rock 'n roll generation that saw 1968 doesn't head for the rocking chair that easily.

"Some of the stories I have covered for the *WSJ* include Latvia's progress toward joining the Eurozone on January 1, and last summer's Latvian Song and Dance Festival, where one of the conductors of a 15,000-voice choir was a 100-year-old man from Michigan (born in Latvia under the Russian czar). I also wrote a feature on a Soviet-era garbage dump that has been transformed into a mainly clean facility that grows strawberries and tomatoes year-round in automated greenhouses heated and lit by biogas from the mountain of decomposing garbage (most of which is covered by grass that is trimmed every summer by a herd of sheep).

"One story I would rather have not had to cover was the disaster in November, when a supermarket roof collapsed in a Riga neighborhood, killing 54 people (including three firefighters hit by a second collapse when they rushed in to rescue victims) and injuring dozens of others. I was at the disaster site twice, mingling with people awaiting word on the survivors and the dead, or just laying flowers and candles as the scope of the catastrophe became evident. The supermarket opened in 2011 and was part of an award-winning project that combined retail space with a high-rise condominium building, rumored to be teetering after the roof of the attached supermarket collapsed.

"After that, we also had an unexpected resignation of Latvia's government, the 18th in 22 years (I think we beat Italy!).

"In Latvia, eyes are also on developments in the Ukraine, torn between an opening to the European Union and pressure and enticements from an increasingly authoritarian and corrupt Russia, which offers a customs union but little aside from oil and gas to circulate inside the customs union. There are some superficial similarities with conditions in Latvia — or rather, what Latvia could have faced outside the EU and having taken a different political and economic path.

"Like the Ukraine, there are pro-Western and pro-Russian divisions, even along East-West lines. Regions in Eastern Latvia were the only parts of the country to have voted for Russian as a second state language in a 2012 referendum (the proposal was overwhelmingly voted down). The East — the region of Latgale — also has its own dialect and, in contrast to the largely Lutheran rest of the country, is predominantly Catholic with a smattering of Old Believers and Russian Orthodox.

"Interestingly, the ethnic Russians who have been present in this part of Latvia for centuries, but who live in a predominantly Russian-speaking local environment, are Latvian nationalists and patriots, as I found out on a trip to the Latgale area recently for an upcoming look at Latvia ahead of the transition to the euro.

"Of more immediate concern to the Baltic States is the placement, reportedly based on Western intelligence but confirmed by Russia, of medium-range, tactical-nuclear-capable Iskander missiles in Kaliningrad. Russia threatened to do this unless it got firm promises that NATO anti-ballistic missile systems were not directed at Russia, but at possible rogue-state missile attacks, and now has executed on this threat. The appearance of the missiles in a Russian enclave bordering Lithuania and Poland has a superficial similarity to the Cuban missile crisis that most of '71C should remember from their junior high days. I certainly do.

"I visit Stockholm whenever possible to watch my grandson, Elliot (4), grow and develop into a bright little guy who speaks Swedish and English and is always ready to play 'What's this called in Latvian?' with me.

"My youngest son, Matiss (18), is applying to U.S. universities (he holds a U.S. passport). He wants to follow his mother into the film and media industry, so the closest he could come to Columbia (which he did consider applying to) may be NYU. He already has been admitted to Emerson in Boston but will wait to hear from NYU, USC and Chapman.

"In October, Matiss, my wife, Una, and I were in Newton, Mass., to celebrate my mother's 100th birthday. She is still looking after the family home she and my late dad bought in 1959. She is still going strong."

Remember back 47 Septembers ago, and the feelings we had, including of adventure, as we entered Columbia College. *We are still connected.*

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Bruce Jacobs recently presided over the inaugural Forum on Quantitative Finance in NYC, sponsored by the Jacobs Levy Equity Management Center for Quantitative Financial Research at the Wharton School (wharton.upenn.edu/jacobslevycenter). He and his business partner, Kenneth Levy, endowed the center in honor of the 25th anniversary of their firm, after which it's named. The forum drew a large crowd of practitioners and academics, who heard the partners give the keynote address on a concept they developed called "leverage aversion." It updates one of the foundational theories of modern finance regarding the risk-return tradeoff to factor in the potentially harmful effects of leverage, or borrowed money. They also presented the first Wharton-Jacobs Levy Prize for Quantitative Financial Innovation to Nobel Laureate Harry Markowitz in recognition of his recent work on individual retirement investment planning.

Jeffrey Laurence was featured in a recent HBO documentary, *The Battle of amFAR*, about the founding of the first American AIDS research organization. Jeffrey directs the Laboratory for AIDS Virus Research at Weill Cornell Medical College and NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, and is a senior scientific

consultant to amFAR.

Mark Hoffman, who sent a dramatic set of then-and-now pictures showing a marked transformation in hair distribution and sartorial tastes, is still in the insurance business after 41 years. He consults on all sorts of group insurance, pensions, executive benefits and property and casualty plans for business. He writes, "I spend much time these days interpreting the Affordable Care Act and its benefits and tax consequences for clients and prospects alike. My wife, Jana, and I have been enjoying the Dallas area since October 2006, having lived in Tulsa, Okla., for the previous 24 years."

Adweek named **Rick Kurnit** No. 21 of "The Adweek 50": "the power players who make the wheels turn across media, marketing and technology." Rick, a leading lawyer for the advertising industry, was the only attorney included on the list. The banner publication of the advertising industry, *Adweek,* summed up Rick's practice with these words: "If Kurnit hasn't negotiated your employment contract, you probably know a CEO for whom he has." Rick reports that his NYC law firm, Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, has grown to 65 lawyers, focusing on entertainment, media and marketing law, providing nearly a full range of legal services, with a particular emphasis on litigation and trusts and estates work. Rick says that he plans to continue practicing as long as it remains fun and the firm flourishes.

As I write this column, the cherry trees that line both ends of College Walk are wound with strings of white lights, bouncing reflections off the late fall snow beneath them. By the time you're reading, it will be much closer to spring. But I hope you all had a chance to return to campus at some point to enjoy the beauty of the scene.

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By the time these Notes are read it will be 2014, 45 years post our year of entry into the College. Who woulda thunk?

East Coast news first: **Michael Shapiro** conducts not only the Chappaqua Orchestra but also the West Point Band's Jazz Knights, the Traverse Symphony Orchestra and the Springfield Symphony Orchestra. In addition, he has created scores for a new NBC crime show; his *Second Sonata* is being performed in Los Angeles and New York; his *Yiddish Quartet* and *Piano Quintet* are touring the United States and Israel and being recorded on Paumanok Records; and his new piano concerto, *Archangel,* will premiere at the New York Repertory Orchestra and the Orchestra Sinfonica de Puerto Rico. Finally, his *Second Symphony* will be recorded in England during the 2014–15 season.

Fred Schneider has lots of good things happening. His older daughter, Lauren, is working on an M.B.A. at NYU and at this writing was to be married in February in Manhattan. His younger daughter, Stephanie, will have her law degree from CUNY in May. His wife, Harriet, received the Howard A. Levine Award for Excellence in Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare last May in Albany. And Fred (not to be outdone) recently celebrated his second anniversary as a partner and chair of the matrimonial and family practice at Ballon, Stoll, Bader & Nadler in Manhattan.

Bill Miller was recognized in October by the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers for contributions spanning decades. Bill was governor, section chair and engineering v.p. at various times, and pioneered a program where he matched donations made by other SMPTE members to pay for student memberships; more than 250 students are now members as a result. Bill retired from ABC-TV in 2008 after 33 years in the technical side of television and consults from time to time to "keep myself out of trouble."

Moving west, **Bruce Rush** writes in (for the first time, brave soul) from Santa Monica, Calif., where he is a clinical psychologist and an adjunct professor of psychology at Pepperdine. He has a "wonderful" family, including wife Lynn; daughter Claire; and son Colin. Bruce also is a fee-for-service provider at the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, testing and evaluating children. In his spare time, he is the California program director and a martial arts therapist for Kids Kicking Cancer. And he "eats and sleeps once in a while."

Also in California is **Jerry Sebag,** who is a professor of clinical ophthalmology at Doheny Eye Institute in Huntington Beach, Calif. Jerry is one of the world's leading authorities on vitreous (of the eye). He has written two books and 66 articles on various related subjects and he recently delivered the plenary lecture to two vitreo-retinal societies in Nagoya, Japan. He has been chosen as a "super doctor" for Southern California for the past five years by his peers, and his third book on vitreous will be published in 2014, the 25th anniversary of his first publication.

Well done, all! Keep up the good news.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1
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One of the unique aspects of our time at Columbia was that we each were free to form our own subculture. There was no sense of having that infamous figure, "the big man on campus." It wasn't the quarterback of the football team (perhaps for good reason!), the president of our class or the heads of any of the many clubs or groups on campus. We each formed our own community that combined floormates from different years, Columbians who shared our political or social interests, and people we simply enjoyed being around. There was no caste system that placed some classmates in groups higher or lower than others.

So here we are almost 40 years after graduation, with Alumni Reunion Weekend planned for Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. Sure, there will be great events, but what many of us really are looking forward to is seeing members of our "posse." That said, reunion attendees have frequently commented that their big surprise was how much they enjoyed finding out what happened to the many classmates outside their inner circle — the guys who were on their Carman floor freshman year, their lab partner or even the person they sat next to during an early-morning CC class. Both groups were an integral part of our Columbia experience, and some members of both groups may be on campus for reunion.

I encourage you to think about the three to five classmates who come to mind when you reflect on your College days — the ones with whom you may stay in touch. Then try to remember the guys who make you wonder, "What ever happened to (fill in the blank)?"

Some classmates will return to Morningside Heights to see the campus — the part they knew four decades ago, the great additions and the incredible new campus emerging between West 125th Street and West 134th Street. Others will come back to have their minds opened once again by world-class professors and alumni, who give Dean's Day and Mini-Core Course lectures during the weekend. But I think almost everyone is drawn to reunion by the chance to catch up with the classmates we were close to as well as to have surprise encounters with those we forget we were close to. You'll never know whom you could meet unless you come!

An unusual number of classmates have popped up lately in the media: PBS, NBC, ABC, *USA Today* and a couple in *The New York Times.* I'm sure there have been a lot more, but these are the ones that I know of (mostly due to posts on Facebook).

Following the death of musician Lou Reed, PBS aired *Lou Reed: Rock and Roll Heart,* a 1998 documentary by **Timothy Greenfield-Sanders.** The one-hour American Masters documentary chronicles Reed's career, starting with the creation of The Velvet Underground in 1965. *USA Today* quoted Timothy, who said, "Lou Reed's music was the backbeat to our lives and his lyrics were our conscience." Around this time I saw Facebook comments from a couple of classmates. **Pinchas "Paul" Giller,** a professor at both the American Jewish University and the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies in Los Angeles, wrote, "Very upset about Lou Reed … New York in the '70s, itself a lost time." **Darryl Chin,** an author and writer in Brooklyn, posted: "RIP Lou Reed. OMG they're dropping like flies: the people who made NYC what it was in my lifetime are going fast."

At the other end of the music spectrum is *The Sing-Off,* a five-year-old a cappella competition show that airs on NBC. Dr. **Burt Rochelson** (chief of obstetrics at North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset, N.Y.) posted that the fiancée of his second son, Ellis, is part of the all-female group Element. They hung in with incredible performances but were eliminated toward the end of the competition.

Someone posted a YouTube clip on Facebook that featured **Darryl Downing,** who does business development in Harlem, at Denny Moe's Superstar Barbershop. The clip was from HLN's TV show, *What Would You Do?,* and involved the reluctance of a black guy to have his hair cut by a "white dude" and the whole issue of what has been termed "reverse racism." This seems to be an issue that will keep popping up until we all internalize the lessons from the late Nelson Mandela.

Paging through *The New York Times* one Sunday last fall, I saw a full-page ad featuring Montefiore Medical Center, the University Hos-

pital for the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, in the Bronx. While reading through the "article," I noticed it featured Dr. **Mark Mehler** in his role as chairman of the department of neurology at both the Montefiore Medical Center and the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. I don't know how he keeps up with all the areas under his purview — they have a Headache Center, a Sleep-Wake Disorder Center, an Autism and Neurodevelopmental Center and much more. (It gives me a headache just thinking of the stack of journals on his nightstand; I wonder if it also gives him a sleep disorder?)

Due to the slow adoption of state legislation recognizing same-sex marriage, we have not received word of a "state-sanctioned" gay marriage of a classmate … until now. The December 1 edition of *The New York Times* carried an announcement that broke a barrier for the Class of '74. It read, "**Thomas Merrick Reefer** and the Rev. John Gregory Morgan were married Friday at Christ and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in New York, where Mr. Morgan, a priest, is assistant to the rector." (To be clear, we are not placing any special importance to the "state-sanctioned" designation and are pleased to report any unions of our classmates. Please send in announcements that we should have made, even if they occurred a while ago.)

The last we heard, Thomas was the headmaster at the Barstow School in Kansas City, Mo. But the *Times* says that he now works in New York "overseeing maintenance and budgets of telecommunications networks at CenturyLink" (the lesser known, third largest telecom, which provides services in 38 states). He also freelances as an organist at various churches in the New York area and earned a doctorate in administration, planning and social policy from Harvard.

It was hard not to be impressed by the Facebook posting by **John Chen** announcing that he had traveled to 750 cities in 30 countries. "How about you?" he added. His latest photo was from his vacation in Virginia Beach, Va. Just a wild guess, but I bet that **Ken Krug** (CFO at The Asia Foundation and nominally living in Berkeley, Calif.) could give John a good run for the title of "most traveled classmate." In October, I saw a Facebook post that he was in Naples, Italy, and then a week later on the Cote d'Azur, France. In December he posted from "near Bali, Indonesia, on the nearby island of Lombok" while on work for the foundation. He added, "Going next to Jakarta." That was three countries in three months!

Barry Klayman, a partner at the law firm Cozen O'Connor in Wilmington, Del., posted photos on Facebook of his son's wedding last November and added, "Kim and Matt's wedding was a typical 350-person Israeli wedding. Beautiful, big families, big traditions, big party!"

Kevin Ward, a longtime financial adviser in Paramus, N.J., tells us that the daughter of **Ted Gregory** attends Barnard. Ted is the director of diversity initiatives and talent retention for Columbia Alumni and Development and is once again living in the Morningside Heights area.

An update came in from **Dan Angius,** soon to be the retired senior partner of the Angius & Terry law firm in Walnut Creek, Calif. His son, Dan, had a "beautiful baby boy, Daniel Vincent Angius, in October." I asked him the significance of the "Dan" name, and he replied, "I think passing down the name 'Dan' is a product of both my own and my son's ego. So much for noble causes." To which I responded, "As it was written in The Book of Fred (a long-lost, and rightfully so, scripture): 'And Dan begat Dan that begat Dan.'"

John Chen '74 posted on Facebook that he has traveled to 750 cities in 30 countries. Among the latest was a stop here in the U.S., in Virginia Beach, Va.

When a classmate has four children, we need to spread out the news on his offspring. Dr. **Steve Blumenthal,** a pediatrician in Portland, Maine, shared news on two of his four. His eldest daughter, Kelsey, is a violinist who earned a B.A. from The Colburn School, in Los Angeles, and is finishing a master's in music at the New England Conservatory of Music. She's good enough to substitute in the violin section for the Boston Symphony Orchestra. His second daughter, Cory, graduated from Boston University and recently left for Korea to teach English.

One Facebook photo merits a mention. **Tim Marcovy,** a partner with Willacy, Lopresti & Marcovy in Cleveland, posted a picture of his taxi driver's license from 1974.

A great YouTube video came my way showing the Columbia University Marching Band parading through Butler at midnight during exam prep week last December. They were playing *Roar, Lion, Roar.* The video was titled "Orgo Night."

There you have it. Classmates in the news and traveling around the globe. The kids of classmates going in wonderful directions. And videos of the poor pre-meds continuing to be abused by the rest of the College student body. How can this not make you want to take a few days off to come back to Morningside Heights and relive our glory days? For more information and to register, go to reunion.college.columbia.edu. See also the reunion preview in "Around the Quads."

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This is going to be relatively short! I'm writing the column in December while supporting my clients as they get ready for end-of-year processing, including all tax notifications. Ugh! I promise to have more for the Summer issue. In the meantime, I can't let the opportunity to report the following pass:

In the fall, I attended one of my favorite Columbia events — Columbia Alumni Leaders Weekend, held on campus October 11–12. Alumni were there from many University schools, although I spent most of my time with College folks. We talked about many things, among them the Core Curriculum, Class Notes for *Columbia College Today,* networking and especially reunion planning. And you know I've been talking about that last one for a while!

The highlight of the weekend for me and for **Ira Malin** was his recognition at the CAA Alumni Medalists Gala on Saturday evening. I reported last spring that Ira had been recognized, and this was the big finale — another outstanding Low gala! I was so pleased to see Ira's wife, Janet Serle, and children, Beth '11 and Allyson '17. Ira, Janet and I walked into Low just before Dean James J. Valentini, and then met up with Beth and the rest of Ira's family at the reception.

Now, it's time for all of us to get to work on some of the items mentioned above. Our next reunion is fast approaching, and we need to start thinking about it. Please look on Facebook for the "Columbia College Class of 1975" page, Like it and contribute to it! And then, too, let me know if you are interested and willing to serve on our (gulp!) 40th reunion committee.

Finally, send cards, letters and emails so I will have lots to report. You can reach me at either of the addresses at the top of the column, or submit an update through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Go Lions!

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Gara LaMarche shares the good news of his marriage on September 28 to Lisa Mueller, a Seattle native and director of development and communications for Sanctuary for Families, a New York City organization working against domestic violence and sex trafficking: "We were married in Watch Hill, R.I., near Westerly, where I grew up and where I worked at the beach during the summers of my childhood and Columbia days. **Dan Baker,** my Carman Hall roommate, was in the wedding party and played the part of me in a performance during the rehearsal dinner of *Lisa and Gara: The Early E-Mails.* A few days after we returned from our 'mini-moon' on Nantucket, the Democracy Alliance, an organization of progressive donors and activists, announced my appointment as president. I started on November 18."

Until September 2011, Gara was president of the Atlantic Philanthropies, a global foundation, and for the past two years he's been a senior fellow at the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at NYU, also doing stints as a senior fellow at the Tides Foundation and a visiting scholar at UC Berkeley. In addition, he has been taking care of his grandson, Sam (2), while his older daughter, Una, has published one young adult novel and finished a second; she is now working on a collection of humorous essays to be published this year.

My close friend from Carman Hall days right through to graduation and after, **Paul Sterne,** writes that as an empty-nester at last, he has time to report some news. First, on the prospect of getting older: "I never liked 60-year-olds and now I am one of them."

But, he adds, there are compensations: "In the Buddhist lifecycle, I have progressed to the hermit stage, having exited the householder phase." His son, Ben, left for UC Santa Barbara in September; daughter Kate works in sales at box.com in San Francisco, while daughter Erica works for The Weinstein Co. as a post-production director in Los Angeles. His eldest daughter, Rachel, is the chief digital officer of the City of New York and made the "40

under 40" list in *Fortune*. She lives in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, with her entrepreneur husband, Max Hoat, CEO of Livestream.

While Paul's career is winding down — General Motors, Deutsche Bank, IBM, E2open, Open-Xchange AG and now Match My Email for Salesforce.com — his wife Anna's career is blossoming. She is the director of Community Care Professionals at St. Mary's for Children in Queens. In the last five years, he says, he has finally found his true vocation: building handmade fences from black locust (a kind of tree) and blogging on GroundReport. He attached a picture of one of his fences in his message to me. Very handsome.

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Hmm (riffling through papers) … looks like I have reports from **Larry Moss** and **Harold Lehmann** (see below); a shout-out from **Dave McAvoy** (from Boston, where he is a managing partner with Northwestern Mutual); and an update on **Neal Wolkoff,** who chairs the board of OTC Markets Group.

Larry is with Seyfarth Shaw, where his practice mostly involves commercial real estate. He works out of the New York office but started in Chicago; wait, let me backtrack.

So, after college, Larry spent two years at the Jewish Theological Seminary and got married. After that he earned a law degree from Chicago and spent many years at the firm of D'Ancona and Pflaum, which merged into Seyfarth in 2003. Divorced in 2000, Larry has been "dating" (as he puts it) Lauren Class Schneider, who lives in midtown Manhattan, which explains his move (back) to New York. Larry has two daughters: "Elena (26), who is married, lives in Chicago and manages a pet store, and Adele (22), who is a graduating senior at the 'other' CC (Colorado College)."

Larry conveys greetings to his buddies from Columbia soccer, adding, "I'd love to go to a CC soccer game sometime but haven't made it yet." Larry notes that he won the Dwight D. Eisenhower Student Watch Award in 1977. "Alas, the watch was stolen a couple of years ago. Memories of the College remain."

As for Harold, he recently received two promotions at the Johns Hopkins Medical School — one to full professor and one to interim director of the school's Division of Health Sciences Informatics. In reference to the latter, he says, "Dean [Robert L.] Belknap ['57 SIPA, '59 GSAS] said that half of us would wind up in jobs that didn't exist back in 1977. I laughed then. I ain't laughing now." Harold and his wife, Rivka, manage a "multinational establishment," with son Gil in his first year at Penn, and daughter Amalya, a Penn graduate, working on an M.Phil. in musicology at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.

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As I write, it's 15 degrees and starting to snow — New Year's Day evening. I'm thinking of a long ago December day, shortly after finals, when I was walking across the South Field walkway toward the subway with a suitcase in hand, an incomplete paper tucked in my things. Snow was collecting on the octagonal black bricks and I was filled with the sense that winter break offered an endless and needed rest. Probably I took a trip to Florida to see my grandparents after hanging out with high school friends over New Year's. Time to wake up …

Tom Mariam has made the move to an iconic NYC law firm, but I'm sure the ex-WKCR maven will still be found in his spare time in the dressing rooms and press boxes of New York sports teams, filing for his own network of radio stations. He writes, "I am happy to report that I have become the director of business development and marketing for Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle, one of the leading international law firms and the second-longest continually operating law firm in the United States."

James "Huck" Hill offers these kind words: "My first and last stop on the radio is WKCR. A year of listening to its music — jazz, classical, raga, bluegrass, funk, folk, blues, electronic oddities, etc. — feeds the soul now as it did in 1974. When our sports get airplay, win, lose or roar, their songs are our songs, too."

Chuck Callan, whom I saw at Homecoming with **Alex Demac,** is keeping up with folks in the College tradition. He writes, "**Alex Demac** and I met for lunch last fall and discussed Shakespeare, the Core and related topics. **Ben Caplan** and I got together in Washington, D.C., between one of his many European trips. We all had a lot of fun at my pre-reunion Cinco de Mayo soiree."

As for Alex, he says, "I've been practicing psychiatry in suburban Connecticut for 23 years. Now that my two eldest sons are in college and the two younger ones are in high school, I've indulged my intense longing for my hometown, Manhattan, by opening an office in Greenwich Village. I come in at least one day each week to see patients, visit with friends and walk, walk, walk. Would love to hear from any NYC classmates and get together for whatever."

Don Guttenplan has great news: "My wife, Maria, and I are very proud that our daughter, Zoe, has been accepted to the Class of 2018! Time to dust off that Lit Hum shelf in my study."

Not to be outdone, **Jeffery Moerdler**'s son is at grad school at Columbia: "Eric is getting a master's in real estate development from the Architecture School and he loves it. He is the first one of my kids to attend Columbia!"

Jeff Canfield '78, who works in the Department of Defense, is the deputy director for battlespace awareness for the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

More family updates from **Joseph Schachner: "I** am an empty-nester; my older daughter is married and my younger one now lives in Manhattan, which she learned to love while she was a student at Barnard. She thought living in suburbia (for free) and having to take a train to Manhattan was a form of child abuse. She is student-teaching; she wants to be an English teacher. Both my parents passed away in the past year, my mom at 89 and my father at 92. At work, I'm a senior software engineer at Teledyne LeCroy. (LeCroy was bought by Teledyne last August.)"

Kevin Vitting also has kid news: "My son, Matt, finished his first semester at Rensselaer. He's dual-majoring in computer science and computer systems engineering. I told him to hurry up and finish; the way Obamacare is going, his country really needs him!"

Jeff Canfield is keeping us safe in the Department of Defense, where he was "appointed in April 2013 as a defense intelligence senior level executive and assigned as deputy director for battlespace awareness for the Joint Chiefs of Staff. I'm also celebrating my granddaughter Marissa's fourth birthday."

Rob Freeberg writes, "Since I have only sent updates to *CCT* when I've reached a milestone, I figured it's about time to announce my retirement from teaching. After 30 years of directing the New Rochelle H.S. band program, I hung up my baton in June 2012. My wife, Judy Fink, also retired from her job directing school and public programs at the Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture. We sold our house in Briarcliff Manor, N.Y., and moved to Dummerston, Vt., near Brattleboro, where we live on 17 acres at the top of a mountain overlooking the hills of southern New Hampshire. I keep busy cutting wood to heat the house and building trails on our property so we can hike, cross country ski and snowshoe from the back door.

"I recently began teaching jazz part-time at The Putney School (where Harry Bauld '77 used to teach English), and I've gotten involved playing trumpet in the surprisingly decent music scene in Brattleboro. Judy is involved in various volunteer projects, and there are plenty of things to keep us occupied. Our son, Nathan, will soon reach the age where he needs to purchase his own health insurance, and leads mountaineering trips for Colorado Outward Bound."

Sigmund Hough Ph.D. writes with lovely thoughts of his time on the Heights and his life today: "At half a century, I have begun to appreciate and really understand the teachings and lessons learned during my Columbia College days. Not only [the keys to] career success and [knowledge from] prestigious academic discussions … but also the challenge of protecting oneself and one's family against unfairness, inequality and discrimination. To remain strong, seek and remain with good people and be up to the challenge of correcting the wrongs and, most important, being a part of correcting and addressing needed change. Perhaps the biggest gift Columbia College provides is the development and refinement of character, moral values, ethical understanding and awareness to address the good and the bad in life. For that, my tuition is a real value that cannot be measured in dollars. At this time of year, I am thankful for the continued connection with good people.

"Sorry; every once in a while, a person (a psychologist, smile) needs to not just talk about professional accomplishments but personal feelings and thoughts as well."

Tim Riedler is another of our wandering Lions, with an itiner-

ary worthy of Ambassador **Chris Dell** or a feature in *The Wall Street Journal*. He writes, "Sorry I missed the reunion [last year]. The last few years have been hectic. I'm a foreign service lawyer with the U.S. Agency for International Development but will be retiring in a few months. My wife and I bought some land in Abruzzo (Italy) and we'll start building our retirement home there this spring. We're now in Cairo but after three years in Moscow, where President Putin shut down our program, I'm tiring of working in countries where we're not particularly welcome. Before Moscow I was in Baghdad for a year (also some prickly local relations, to put it mildly) while my family was 'safe-havened' in Budapest, where we'd spent the previous four years.

"It's been a great career overall and my Columbia education has always been the bedrock. My daughter, Pallas, started Wellesley this year, and my son, Laurens, is skipping the last two years of high school to start at Bard College at Simon's Rock in the Berkshires. Although having both kids go off to college at the same time comes with sadness and is a shock to 'family life' at home, it's good to have them moving successfully on to that next phase. Not to mention that this opened up the possibility for imminent retirement for me, particularly attractive with all the tumult around. Maybe now I'll have time to go back and read all those pages from Herodotus that weren't assigned in Lit Hum!"

Dan Pincus, who is in New York, says, "I'm a classically trained tenor who has sung in and around New York since 1981. Later, I became a reform cantor and have served several congregations. Now, I spend my time leading classical music classes at senior residences, raising money for music programs at NYC public schools, leading therapeutic drum circles at health care facilities and, of course, singing concerts and leading services when called upon.

What's Your Story?

Letting classmates know what's going on in your life is easier than ever. Send in your Class Notes!

ONLINE by clicking college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

EMAIL to the address at the top of your column.

MAIL to the address at the top of your column.

Of Columbia interest, during the past two years I have sung the *The Star-Spangled Banner* at several CU basketball games."

Midwesterner (now) **Rob Blank** sends this update: "I was delighted to catch up with many classmates at reunion last spring. On returning home, I started a job as chief of endocrinology at the Medical College of Wisconsin. After a sheltered career in which I only had to worry about my own lab and patients, I now find myself responsible for a group practice and others' research programs as well. I'm finding the management side both challenging and fun, despite the turmoil related to the Affordable Care Act and the NIH research budget."

Henry Aronson is in Brooklyn and plying his career on the Great White Way. He writes, "I continue to sport the '80s big-hair as musical director of *Rock of Ages* on Broadway, the 34th longest running show in Broadway history, which is coming up on its fifth anniversary. My own show, *Loveless Texas*, is on the development roster of ROA producer Jeff Davis, with a workshop in Florida scheduled for 2014. My wife, Cailín, and I lost our old Italian greyhound, Wee Seán, who passed away in September at 16, and have welcomed a new IG puppy, Wee Chappie, who is a rock star: beautiful, endlessly energetic and dangerously destructive. His hobbies include terrorizing his 11-year-old sister, Luna Rae."

Another of our musical classmates is **Paul Phillips**, who writes, "In 2013 I led the Brown University Orchestra on a concert tour of Ireland. Also, [with librettist Bill Harley] I won the North Cambridge Family Opera 2012 Proposal Competition and plan to spend much of 2014 on sabbatical from Brown composing the opera with Bill. The premiere is scheduled for March 2015."

Jonathan Soffer writes, "I teach history at NYU and am working on a book on Tammany Hall and the construction of New York's infrastructure."

I may need Jonathan's book because after 10 years I have left the presidency of the Connecticut Technology Council to become the new economic development administrator for the city of New Haven and our new mayor, Toni Harp. Aside from steering what should be a billion dollars in new building and housing development, I get to oversee the fun departments, seven in all, including around 300 people. We create jobs; train people; and deal with the airport, parking, arts and marketing, and I hope we can add IT soon. When I came to Columbia it was as much for the urban location and offerings as anything. I studied cities, along with their politics, history and role in America. I have wanted to hold this job since I was in the ninth grade and wrote a paper about New Haven's history and planning. I am delighted and excited to contribute to my hometown in this great way. Come visit or send me your ideas! At my appointment press conference, I made references in my comments to the Yankees and Jane Jacobs, which made an impression with the local press.

My daughter Elana is at Simmons in Boston (in a fancy apartment overlooking Fenway Park — yikes) earning a master's in archiving, and my daughter Joy is a sophomore in international studies at American in Washington, D.C.; she'll head off to China this summer. My wife, Marian Chertow '77 Barnard, is a professor of industrial ecology at Yale and spends her own time in China and India when not down the street. These are good times for us.

I know we're a few months in, but Happy New Year to you all!

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1
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To start, it's my duty to report that our 35th reunion is nearly upon us. Be sure you're saving the date for Alumni Reunion Weekend, Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. Our Reunion Committee has been hard at work planning activities for our group, plus there will be a range of multi-class events that we can take part in. Saturday is also Dean's Day, which offers the chance to relive our classroom experiences through lectures with some of Columbia's finest professors. It all leads up to our class dinner on Saturday, followed by dancing under the stars at the Starlight Reception. For more information and to register, go to reunion.college.columbia.edu. See also the reunion preview in "Around the Quads."

Jace Weaver is the Franklin Professor of Religion and Native American Studies and director of the Institute of Native American Studies at the University of Georgia in Athens. This March, his 12th book, *The Red Atlantic: American Indigenes and the Making of the Modern World, 1000–1927*, will be published.

Richard Cooper is "considering seeking the Libertarian Party nomination for governor of New York. I have previously served as state chair of the Libertarian Party."

News from **Mark Itzkowitz:** "My whole family has a Columbia connection now. My older daughter, Laura '13 Arts, received her M.F.A. in October. She is the managing editor of Untapped Cities and has had her articles featured there and in The Huffington Post, *Business Insider*, *Words Without Borders*, *The Culturist* and elsewhere.

"My younger daughter, Melissa '13 Barnard, was the school's 'poster child' in the Summer 2013 *Barnard Magazine*, having been featured on the inside cover for the 'Barnard Now: An Appeal for Annual Support'; she also had her photography (*From the Roots*) displayed in two exhibitions at Barnard during her senior year, and she combined her photographs with my father's to prepare a grandfather/granddaughter book (one of her senior projects), *Losing Balance*. She is helping me in my legal practice while she looks for a more desirable (as if that were possible) position in her chosen fields of anthropology and photography and contemplates graduate school.

"You can guess their mom's (Ellie Louis '79 Barnard) and my pride at both. Ellie and Melissa were featured in the 'Alumnae Daughters' section of *Barnard Magazine* some time back, and both attended the mother/daughter celebrations at graduation. Those of us from across the street were able to enjoy the events on campus.

"It was wonderful to spend so much time in Morningside Heights while the girls/women were in school. It's amazing to see how much the area has changed since 1979. Hard to believe that it's been 35 years since I was the first to graduate college in my family. Ellie and I continue our private practices, psychology and law, in the Boston area, which somehow seems further from New York now that the girls have graduated. Best wishes."

Robert C. Klapper: My wife and I saw an incredible movie by Ron Howard called *Rush*, which takes place around the 1976 Formula One season (essentially our freshman year at Columbia — as if that were so long ago; for many of us, it's like yesterday). It was not incredible because it was about Formula One racing, a subject about which I know nothing. It was incredible because of the story it told about two men, drivers James Hunt and Niki Lauda. And it made me think about a moment from my time at Columbia that has

stayed with me all these years:

One night during our junior year, **Robert Darnell** M.D., Ph.D., M.O.U.S.E. and man from U.N.C.L.E. — now professor at The Rockefeller University and, in my opinion, future Nobel Prize winner — and I were watching the news in the TV lounge at John Jay. Our heated conversation took us from the lounge into his dorm room, where one entire wall was covered by a red poster of Lauda in his Ferrari Formula One car. His face was permanently disfigured by a burn from a horrific crash he suffered in a race in Germany. It was at this moment, staring at this poster, that Bob relayed the story that is the subject of *Rush*. But he said something that night that has stayed with me. He said that Lauda's wife was a beautiful model and that even after this life-threatening and disfiguring tragedy, she did not leave him. I remember looking at his face and imagining the power in their relationship. Three decades later, whenever the phrase 'true love' is mentioned, I go back to that dorm room and look at that poster and hear that story again. Thanks, Bob.

Go see that movie.

Can you believe all we had was a TV lounge?

Roar, lion, roar!

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Spring is a wonderful time here in New York City as Central Park begins to bloom, people are out and about riding their Citi Bikes and baseball season is in full swing. Coach Brett Boretti and a group of alumni got together in February to kick off the season. Coming off one of the best seasons ever last spring, the coach and his staff have assembled a high-quality team that surely will continue the winning tradition. [Editor's note: See story on Boretti and Columbia baseball in "Roar, Lion, Roar."]

I had a nice dinner with **Jack Hersh '80E, Dave Maloof** and Harlan Simon '81 at Carmine's in Manhattan. The red sauce was delicious, and the great stories kept us in laughs! Jack is managing money out of Santa Monica, running marathons and flying planes in his spare time. Dave is an expert in maritime law, an avid Jets fan and has a son, David II '17. "The Big H" (Harlan) is a partner in a hedge fund business in NYC.

Stan Lazusky checked in from Hershey, Pa., where he runs his executive search firm focusing on the healthcare industry. Always up for a debate, we have been trying to figure out the direction of the stock market and where the economy is headed.

Eric Goldstein is leaving Paul, Weiss, where he was a partner in the litigation department, to become CEO and executive v.p. of UJA-Federation of New York, the largest local Jewish charity in the world. He has been involved with the organization for 25 years as a lay leader and in 2013 was named vice chair. He begins in his new post this July.

I look forward to hearing from you. Send your submissions to either address at the top of the column, or you can use *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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I apologize to the class for missing the deadline for the Winter 2013–14 edition of *CCT*. I did receive one update prior to the deadline, which appears first here.

On October 1, 2012, the Hon. **Paul Feinman** was designated by Gov. Andrew Cuomo as an associate justice of the Supreme Court of New York, Appellate Division, First Department. The First Department hears appeals from the trial courts in Manhattan and the Bronx, which represents a tremendous number of cases due to the high number of appeals from these boroughs. Paul says that appellate decision making is a collaborative process and very different from being a trial judge but he enjoys the new position. In close proximity to Paul are several other Columbians: Roland Acosta '79, '82L; the Hon. David Saxe '63; and the Hon. Rosalyn Richter '76 Barnard.

The next update is for all classmates who either a) have a tattoo they'd like removed or b) have a son or daughter with a tattoo, which they would pay to have removed. (I fall in the latter category; it's a long story.) Dr. **Jeffrey Rand** is a board-certified dermatologist in Manhattan with a specialty in laser tattoo removal and is the only doctor in the country whose practice is exclusively devoted to removing unwanted tattoos. Jeffrey uses the PicoSure laser, which he says reduces the number of treatments by half and allows for effective removal of difficult colors. In his practice, Jeffrey sees many Columbia students and children of Columbia alumni as well as international patients who book appointments while visiting NYC. He recently celebrated his 31st anniversary, and he and his wife have four children: Michael (27), Adam (25), David (21) and Daniel (15).

Congratulations on a successful medical practice and on a long and fruitful marriage!

This next update came to me from Elliot Cafritz '82 via **Jeff Pundyk** and concerns a new book by **Lincoln Paine,** *The Sea and Civilization: A Maritime History of the World*. The online reviews are very favorable. And on November 11, there was a gathering of several alumni at the Politics and Prose bookstore in Washington, D.C., where Lincoln gave a reading.

Mark Allen sent sad news about the death of his dear friend Dr. **Alan Saffran** '86 P&S. Alan passed away on September 27, 2013, at 53, from pancreatic cancer. At the College, Alan followed a pre-med track and was a sportscaster at Columbia Television. He did his residency at Virginia and was a board-certified otolaryngologist and a partner in an Orlando practice. Beyond being an accomplished doctor, Alan was a great father, husband and friend. He was a member of the Roach Motel League, a fantasy baseball league that was formed in 1981 and is the oldest continually operating fantasy baseball league in the world (I'm not in a position to confirm or deny this fact but you have to admire their persistence — wow). Alan participated in this league from 1981 until his death, officially winning the league's 2013 title on the day after he passed away. He is survived by his wife, Pam; mother, Dolores; brother, Bruce; and children, Miles, Nathaniel and Ella.

Thanks to Mark for bringing this to my attention and for providing such a thoughtful message to the Class of 1981. Our condolences go out to the Saffran family.

I also was informed of the death of **Jonathan Taffler,** who passed away on September 13, 2013, after a hard-fought battle with cancer. Jon was a business executive who resided in Wilton, Conn. He was the president and founder of two firms (Programmed Solutions and Spitfire Project Management System). Jon was described by his friends as a force of nature who was a pilot, flight instructor and sportsman. He developed software, possessed a photographic memory and had an insatiable curiosity about the world. He is survived by his daughters, Brooke and Lindsay; parents, Sy and Elaine; and former wife, Randi Shamitz.

Our condolences go out to the Taffler family.

[Editor's note: See Obituaries for more on Saffran and Taffler.]

I am stepping down as the *CCT* class correspondent for 1981. It has been a privilege reporting on the class, as it has allowed me to stay in touch (albeit from a distance) with Columbia College. While attending Columbia and living on the Upper West Side in the late 1970s was not easy for me, it was a tremendous life experience and great preparation for all that has followed. If you have not attended a reunion in many years, you should before too long, as the campus looks fantastic and the undergraduates actually look happy!

Paul Feinman '81 was designated by Gov. Andrew Cuomo as an associate justice of the Supreme Court of New York, Appellate Division, First Department.

I turn this column over to **Michael Kinsella,** a longtime friend. Michael resides in Connecticut with his wife and two daughters, who are about the same age as mine, so we have much in common (note: Michael has been able to retain his hair; mine has departed). I hope you will support Michael as the class correspondent as you all have supported me. He can be reached at mgk1203@gmail.com or 16 Millwood St., Milford, CT 06460.

Very best to the Class of 1981!

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Greetings, gentlemen! I trust all is well and that all your "doomsday prepping" came in handy during the recent polar vortex.

Checking in this quarter is our award-winning physician **Sal Volpe.** Not only has Dr. Sal been running his own high-tech primary care practice for more than 20 years but he also is chief medical officer for Physicians Desk Reference (PDR) Network, a technology firm that integrates vital bio/pharmaceutical information with electronic health records to support healthcare professionals. He is happy to report, "My two sons continue to refine their acting chops by participating in their schools' dramatic and musical productions. The position at PDR continues to prove interesting

as the company develops products and services, many of which integrate with electronic health records."

It is also worth noting that Sal fully revealed himself as a CC graduate by taking exception to the fact that my current employer, Janus Capital, has three chief investment officers (one of which is yours truly); he pointed out that the Roman god Janus had two faces and therefore we should only have two chief investment officers. I'd point this out to the CEO but he'd probably can me if I did, so I guess I'll hold off … for now.

Also touching base this quarter is noted esquire **David Shine,** who has an interesting update complete with a Homeric reference. Before I get to it, though, I wanted to share that I did a bit of (to quote Derek Zoolander) "investagatory journalism" and discovered that David is co-head of Fried Frank's Mergers and Acquisitions Practice. Among other achievements, he was named a "Dealmaker of the Week" by *The American Lawyer* for his role in advising Merck in its $41 billion merger with Schering-Plough, and he is the director of New Classrooms Innovation Partners, a not-for-profit K–12 education reform company.

So, David, what are you doing with all your spare time?

David writes, "Our friend **David Fishman** and the eminent architect Robert A.M. Stern ['60] have published their architectural history book, *Paradise Planned: The Garden Suburb and the Modern City.* To celebrate, several classmates held a dinner in David's honor at the original Wolfgang's Steakhouse on Park Avenue (where, David noted, the Guastavino tile interior is one of the few landmarked interiors in New York City). After four years of work on the book project, David reports that he finally understands that man is born free, but everywhere he is in chains.

Columbia College Alumni on Facebook

Check out the Columbia College Alumni page!

facebook.com/alumnicc

Like the page to get alumni news, learn about alumni events and College happenings, view photos and more.

"**Larry Sacks '82E** was at the dinner, flying over the wine-dark seas from London where he works in financial services and where he is getting ready to move with his family from a flat to a proper house in the suburbs. Stately plump **Evan Hollander** was also there. Evan lives on the Upper West Side with his wife and daughter and reported that he is content at his law firm, Arnold & Porter, where he is a partner specializing in restructuring and bankruptcy.

"Michael Offen '84, the group's favorite investment banker, was a bit late to dinner, but when he did appear he reported that he is now with Guggenheim Partners in New York and lives with his wife and three kids in Rockland County. There, he said, he cultivates his garden, because he must. **Gavin Miles,** executive ADA (rackets bureau) in Brooklyn, won the night's 'Best Hair at Age 52' contest; he reports that his son, Ben, has started college at Oberlin, where he will seek to forge in the smithy of his soul the uncreated conscience of the Miles clan. **Phil Teverow** is the founder of a specialty foods consulting business based in Brooklyn and has two kids in college (Oberlin and the University of St Andrews) and one soon to be entering. The financial impact on him of all this college, Phil reports, has sometimes left him feeling like a patient etherized upon a table.

"I (**David Shine**) have been living in Armonk, Westchester, for 15 years, but my wife and I have been unable to resist the siren call of NYC and will be moving back this fall when our youngest leaves for college. The dinner was long, we stayed late and before we knew it rosy-fingered dawn crept in."

Gents, thanks for writing in, and I look forward to hearing from all of you again soon.

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Kevin Chapman and his wife, Sharon Gerstman Chapman '83 Barnard, are proud to report that their son, Ross, has been accepted to the Class of 2018. Sharon's father is Dr. David Gerstman '56, so Ross represents their third generation at Columbia.

Kevin is writing a novel and was kind enough to share one of his favorite chapters — a flashback to the old college days (set at Columbia) of Jonathan Prescott, the protagonist, and his conscience and confidante, Frank Elkhardt. An excerpt:

"1990. 'Four weeks, gentlemen. Four.' Professor Gray's baritone boomed through the small seminar room in Hamilton Hall. It was a gray, cloudy, chilly day outside the slightly grimy window, and nearly as drab inside the room. It certainly had not been painted in 20; no, 30 years. Brown streaks ran down over what had once been ornately carved wooden molding, staining the paint where the heating pipes leaked hot water during the winter months. The iron radiator under the window hissed occasionally during class to remind the students that they sat in the same room, with the same hissing radiator, where Lionel Trilling had first taught Ulysses to eager boys in tweed jackets. Wallace Gray had been one of them, and now he was teaching another generation of philosopher kings, only Joyce was not on the fall semester reading list for Contemporary Civilization. But Plato's Republic was, although the memories of it were fading in the minds of the 15 young men sitting in silence before the gray-haired professor. Only four weeks until the semester exam. A thousand pages left to read, and 3,000 behind them to review. Wally Gray was an icon: chairman of the English department and professor for over 20 years. His senior seminars and lecture classes on Eliot, Joyce and Pound were always oversubscribed. English majors battled to have him for an adviser. Yet he still relished the opportunity to teach freshmen and sophomores in the 'Core Curriculum' classes of Literature Humanities and Contemporary Civilization. The great works of literature, philosophy, politics and economics — the basis of Western civilization. They were the bedrock of the Columbia education, and brutal courses for young college men, no matter how well prepared in high school. Professor Gray was molding minds; shaping the course of lives. He loved every minute of it. He prowled the front of the crowded room, making eye contact with each student, pouring ideas into their minds like fine wine into a two-week-old jack-o'-lantern."

David Rubel writes, "Thought I'd pass on the good news. Columbia admitted my daughter, Abigail, early decision. Yippee! In October, I was invited to take part in the annual CAA Alumni Authors Book Fair, which is part of Columbia Alumni Leaders Weekend. During the lunch, held in Lerner Hall (a far cry from the old Ferris Booth), we were treated to a conversation between President Lee C. Bollinger and chair (now co-chair) of the Board of Trustees William V. Campbell '62, '64 TC (still the football coach to me). Listening to them sing the University's praises, I found it hard to believe that they were talking about our alma mater. I always thought of the school I attended as the 'scruffy' Ivy, but Columbia is scruffy no more.

"I felt much more at home, however, after serendipitously sitting down at a table already occupied by my freshman-year John Jay roommate, **John Cody.** My eyesight isn't what it used to be, so I didn't recognize John across the table. But when he heard my voice (which still carries), he picked up his head and boomed out a very welcome greeting. I also caught up with another alumni author and *Spectator* colleague, Eric Laursen '82, who has written a book about the history of Social Security called *The People's Pension.* I'm looking forward to reading it."

Teddy Weinberger had dinner with my family during his recent visit to the United States for his niece's bat mitzvah. Teddy also spent time with **Adam Bayroff.** Adam's son, Logan, recently graduated from Penn. Teddy and his wife have raised five children in Giv'at Ze'ev, Israel. He is a true Renaissance man, having been an assistant professor of religious studies, writer (he recently hit No. 399 in his bi-weekly columns on life in Israel, and he writes for several American Jewish newspapers), businessman and tennis instructor. Teddy's daughter, Rebecca, is a professional Israeli basketball player.

Bruce Abramson reports, "I am about to launch a series of monthly continuing legal education webinars through Lawline.com on the broad topic of 'Strategy in the Age of IP Holdup.' The talks will run one hour each and are CLE-accredited in many states. Though they all hew to a common theme, I have designed them to be independent. My first talk is 'Winning the Aftermarket.' The other talks are not yet scheduled but I plan to cover the following topics: patent strategy in the modern economy, the strategic benefits of IP valuation, the strategic uses of big patent data, the strategic side of IP licensing, strategic copyright in the digital age, strategic navigation of the standard-setting process and strategic IP exclusivity in a competitive economy.

"Although I am presenting the materials in a CLE course, the materials and presentations are geared toward anyone interested in the interplay between IP rights and business strategy — technologists, managers and investors as well as lawyers. If you would like details or know anyone who might want details, please let me know. I will share the abstracts of the various talks."

I met Paul Foglino '84, '85E at

a mutual friend's birthday party. Paul is married to Libby O'Conner Foglino '85 Barnard and teaches math at The Brearley School. He is a former CU marching band member and is in touch with **Robert Kahn**, Dennis Klainberg '84 and Steve Greenfield '82.

Jon Ross wrote toward the end of last year: "I wanted to take this moment, in this season of thanksgiving, to express my appreciation for your support. And I want to specifically mention the tragedy in the Philippines. Of course, my heart goes out to the survivors of that disaster and hope that the emergency response is continuing to help those in dire need. I wanted you to know, since [my nonprofit] MicroAid is a long-term, disaster-recovery organization, I will go there to help down the road. Our mission is to stay focused on areas after the world's attention has moved on. MicroAid is still working in the Indian Ocean basin (tsunami 2004), Myanmar (cyclone 2008), and Haiti (earthquake 2010). In your thoughts and generosity surrounding this new disaster, please don't forget those left behind."

I spoke to **Steve Coleman** at Homecoming on October 12. He has a daughter, Sarah '15. Steve attended the 100th anniversary Sachems dinner. More than half the members of the Senior Society of Sachems attended, including former Dean of Students Roger Lehecka '67, '74 GSAS.

Steve also sent in a press release issued about **David Nagle,** who has been named president of Nature's Way Purewater Systems of Pittston, Pa. The press release notes that David had been the company's v.p. of sales and marketing and that he has more than 25 years of business experience, having managed two start-ups in addition to holding executive level roles in two other companies. He holds a master's from Scranton.

Wayne Allyn Root sent me a holiday card noting that his book *The Ultimate Obama Survival Guide,* was a No. 1 national bestseller, stayed in the top five in bookstores for 10 consecutive weeks and was No. 1 in the world in three categories at Amazon. His new book, *The Murder of the Middle Class,* is coming out in July.

Wayne traveled the world in 2013 for speaking engagements, visiting South Africa twice and going on his first safari! He was invited to address the Conservative Political Action Conference in Washington, D.C., alongside Mitt Romney, Sarah Palin, Newt Gingrich, Rand Paul and Ted Cruz. The card adds, "[My wife, Debra, and I] are so proud of [our daughter], Dakota. She received three 'firsts' during her two terms at Oxford in the spring and will graduate with honors from Harvard in May."

This past October I attended Columbia Alumni Leaders Weekend, which included a talk about the Manhattanville campus. To share some of the highlights, the new campus brings the future forward, as there will be 17 acres and 6.8 million square feet of space, links among disciplines and campuses, the highest standards for sustainability (New York City's first LEED platinum plan for neighborhood development), 6,000 new university jobs and thousands of construction-related jobs during the next several decades, and an urban campus that welcomes visitors through open streets, ground-floor retail, plazas and public programs.

The *New York Post* ran the following story about **Dan Loeb**'s holiday card: "Irascible hedge fund billionaire Dan Loeb's holiday card is full of over-the-top family achievements past, present and future — including a Loeb moon landing. Bearing the tag line 'Not Your Ordinary Family,' it features on one side a Facebook page-inspired spread of Loeb clan pictures that include the wet suit-wearing Third Point founder surfing an enormous wave, a mocked-up shot of him cheekily engraving a giant 'LOEB' tattoo on his wife Margaret's back 'circa 1953,' plus shots of the couple and their kids in exotic locations, one of them on a boat."

The grandfather of one of my son's Little League teammates is a great Columbia supporter. Herbert Soroca '63, '66L was a varsity crew member and coached crew after graduating from CC. He also was close friends with late former Dean Harry Coleman '46.

Steven Greenfield writes, "It took about 12 months longer than it should have, but my 2012 music survey is complete and available at permanentransience.blogspot.com. Please have a look when you get the chance. Remember 2012? The year of Psy's 'Gangnam Style' and Carly Rae Jepsen's 'Call Me Maybe'? If it already seems a distant memory, this survey will serve as a refresher of sorts.

"Because it took so long for me to get through this time around, I am dispensing with the usual introductory material, snark and all, in favor of getting to the heart of the matter. … I want to thank, as usual, **Steve Holtje** and Luis Rueda for their suggestions about what was worth paying attention to in 2012 and my darling Melissa for bearing with me all the time it took to get this survey finished.

"My list of the Top Twelve (of the pops) for the year follows: 1, The Mars Volta, 'Noctourniquet'; 2, Burial, 'Street Halo/Kindred'; 3, Actress, 'R.I.P.'; 4, Flying Lotus, 'Until the Quiet Comes'; 5, Goat, 'World Music'; 6. Tame Impala, 'Lonerism'; 7, Sigur Rós, 'Valtari'; 8, Galactic, 'Carnivale Electricos'; 9, Bat for Lashes, 'The Haunted Man'; 10, Crystal Castles, 'Crystal Castles (III)'; 11, Stars, 'The North'; and 12, Ondatrópica, 'Ondatrópica.'"

Steve Coleman '83 attended the 100th anniversary dinner of the Senior Society of Sachems.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1
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Alumni Reunion Weekend: a chance to reunite, to see old friends and make new ones, to introduce our families, network, celebrate the successes of our classmates, commiserate over departed friends, talk about the old times, talk about the new times, rewind, reconnect and relive the great experience that was Columbia '84.

Thanks to the leadership of Reunion Committee chair, **Arthur C. Kohn,** meetings have expanded to included **Ben Pushner,** class president **Larry Kane, Alfred Torres, Paul Auwaert, John Perfetti, James Gorton, Ken Ofori-Atta, Virgilio Lozza, Averill Powers** and **Dennis Klainberg.**

Special note: Many of you have mentioned through the years that you wanted greater participation with our friends across Broadway. So this year, we are pleased to report that the Barnard Class of 1984 has been working with us from the start. What's more, our first reunion event will be a shared event, much like last year's successful Thursday evening event at the home of Roy Pomerantz '83.

So please save the date: Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. For details and to register go to reunion.college.columbia.edu.

Now, on to the updates:

With health care a major topic, National Kidney Foundation president **Bruce Skyer** is in the news. As noted in various outlets, Bruce expressed "[thanks] to NKF's patient constituency and those of our professional members who are on the front lines caring for dialysis patients for their work in reaching out to lawmakers. However, our work is not over, and we will continue to make sure kidney patients have access to the care and treatments they need."

Despite a little rainfall, the annual outdoor Columbia Alumni Association soiree during Art Basel Miami provided a well-needed break during an otherwise terribly hectic time. Yours truly (**Dennis Klainberg**) was able to jog over from the beach (I was handling the Scope Art fair's shipping needs) and meet with dear friends **Bernardo Burstein** and his wife, Lynn, and Seth Schachner '85. Bernardo is one of Miami's best legal eagles, while Seth wheels and deals in international media. Seth, his wife, Allison, and their two kids visited the show the next day, and my sons and I met Bernardo, Lynn and his daughter two weeks later at Bernardo's second business, The Guitar Nook. Check it out (and make purchases) online. The lunch at the nearby Jewish deli wasn't too shabby, either!

On December 11, two of our former varsity wrestlers, Andy Barth '83 and **Yossi Rabin,** who both won the Dwight D. Eisenhower Watch Award for the highest GPA among athletes (in 1981 and 1982, respectively), had a personal 30-year reunion in Los Angeles. Andy is the chairman of and a portfolio manager at Capital Guardian Trust Company, a division of the Capital Group Companies. Yossi is the owner and manager of Kochavim Real Estate in Jerusalem, Israel.

Also, Yossi and his wife, Kochava, get a *mazel tov* on the birth of their third grandchild, Bat-Iyan Rabin, on January 4.

Pastrami dreams, and hope to see you all at reunion.

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This edition's updates include a variety of news from around the world, around the New York area and around campus.

Joseph L. Novak continues his career with the U.S. State Department. He is based in Montreal,

where he serves as the deputy chief of mission and alternate U.S. representative to the International Civil Aviation Organization. The U.S. Mission to ICAO is focused on improving the security, safety and economic sustainability of international civil aviation, an area in which the United States is the world leader. During ICAO's recent General Assembly, the U.S. Mission hosted a huge delegation from Washington, D.C., which included the Secretary of Transportation, the (acting) Secretary of Homeland Security and the administrators of the Federal Aviation Administration, the Transportation Security Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board. The mission's activities can be reviewed at icao.usmission.gov.

A member of the State Department's political cone, Joe also has served in Jakarta, Indonesia; Islamabad, Pakistan; Dhaka, Bangladesh; Manila, the Philippines; and Colombo, Sri Lanka. He has served in Afghanistan, meeting with Hamid Karzai, Ahmad Shah Massoud and many other Afghan leaders. He has studied French, Indonesian and Bengali in depth. No matter where he is, Joe follows the Giants, the Yankees, the Lions and Notre Dame football, and can be found reading *The New York Times*.

Back in New York, **Paul Getzels** continues as a member of the New York City Bar Chorus, the legal professionals' chorus, which held its 20th anniversary concert last fall. The chorus is directed by Paul's wife, Cathy Schneider. Its mission is to be a goodwill ambassador of the New York City Bar, performing primarily at community venues such as senior residences, homeless shelters, AIDS and cancer patient residences, and pediatric and rehab facilities. Paul's expanding voice-over career (encompassing nearly a decade) includes projects for companies such as WFAN (the sports-talk radio station in New York), Phillips (corporate videos) and a variety of films, commercials and book trailers.

On Morningside Heights, after 20 seasons as head coach of women's soccer, **Kevin McCarthy** has resigned to pursue other opportunities. Kevin was only the second head coach in program history; in his 20 years, he compiled an overall record of 162–145–36. His most successful season came in 2006, when Columbia went undefeated in conference play and won the Ivy title. Of course, Kevin's relationship to Columbia soccer extends back to his membership on the team 1981–84 (during the heart of the team's eight consecutive Ivy titles); he also was an assistant men's soccer coach 1988–93.

At a Columbia event this past fall, I was truly fortunate to catch up with a group of classmates. In the corporate world, **Michael Cho**, who founded Destination RX, now DRX, in 1999, sold the company to Connecture in January 2013. Michael now leads Connecture's private Medicare exchange business as chief innovation officer and will no doubt continue to do great things.

Ed Scott is a managing director at Concord Investment Partners Holdings in Riverside, Conn. Concord is a private equity firm specializing in buyouts, middle market and turnaround investments, with a preference for investments in the manufacturing, distribution and high technology sector.

In the legal arena, after extended work in the public sector, **Hector Morales** has shifted to the private sector, both as counsel to Baker & McKenzie in Washington, D.C., and as vice-chair of Global Strategic Associates, which provides strategic consulting and investment services to leading international businesses with a focus on Latin America, Asia and the United States.

Brian Margolis enjoys his legal practice at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe (he has been recognized by IPO Vital Signs as one of the top 100 IPO lawyers in the U.S.).

Outside the law and medicine, **Bryan Barnett,** having left Concorde Investment Services, is an independent consultant and Microsoft Office specialist/instructor.

John Phelan's daughter, Unity, has been asked to join New York City Ballet as a member of the corps de ballet!

In the medical world, two classmates have new positions: **Lane Palmer** is now secretary-elect at the Society for Pediatric Urology, and **Lucas Collazo** is now surgical director of the Adult Congenital Heart Program at Inova Health System.

Kudos to **Mark Rothman** for joining me and others among the Class Agent ranks.

Aside from being a Class Agent and helping the Columbia College Fund raise money for the next generation of Columbians (the total four-year bill can now approach a quarter of a million dollars), let me make a plug for two other things for which you can volunteer. First, the Admissions Office is always looking for alumni volunteers to interview prospective students through the Alumni Representative Committee; you can find more information here: undergrad.admissions.columbia.edu/admissions/archandbook. Second, the Center for Career Education is looking for alumni who can offer internships (clearly, if you are located in New York, it is easier for internships during the semester; but summer or between-semester opportunities are valuable as well). Go to careeredu cation.columbia.edu.

Finally, congratulations to those of you who have children who received early decision acceptances at Columbia or elsewhere. You may remember that the Class of '85 led the way last year in legacy admissions to Columbia, and in the Fall 2014 issue, look for the list of classmates who will create a multigenerational relationship with the College. My middle son, Noah, was blessed to receive good early news and will be joining the Duke Class of 2018. We are extremely happy, very proud and we get to continue wearing blue and white college attire — albeit a slightly different shade.

Paul Getzels '85 is a member of the New York City Bar Chorus, the legal professionals' chorus, which held its 20th anniversary concert last fall.

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Happy 50th birthday, classmates! I know; it's painful to see that in print but we should be proud that we are the youngest of the Baby Boomer generation, or those born between 1946 and 1964. Throughout 2014, 12,500 of those born in 1964 will turn 50 each day. So, happy birthday and congrats on hitting the golden jubilee of birthdays!

Also, I hate to remind you, but age 50 is when the American Cancer Society suggests you should start screening for colorectal cancer. If you want to make a party of it, contact **Jack Merrick,** who, as was reported here four years ago, helps organize "Scopefest" colonoscopy parties.

Congrats to **Mark Fortier** for being appointed managing director, head of global defined contribution research and product development at State Street Global Advisors. He joined from Alliance Bernstein and previously worked at Aegon for more than 20 years.

The proverbial mail bag was far too empty this time around. Send in your updates! You can write me at either of the addresses at the top of the column, or submit news via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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Although thankfully these occasions are still not the norm, I once again find myself with a heavy heart at having to report the death of **Karin Higa,** who passed away on October 29, 2013, following a battle with cancer. Her friend **Karen Walker** sent the following remembrance.

"Karin was an expert in Asian-American art who worked for many years as a curator at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles. She was well respected for her expansive knowledge and numerous contributions [toward] increasing understanding of Asian-American and contemporary art. Karin organized many notable exhibitions, including a landmark 1992 show of art made at internment camps during WWII and a 2008 show devoted to the art of *ikebana,* or Japanese flower arrangement. She had been named a curator for the Hammer Museum's 'Made in L.A.' Biennial for 2014 but was forced to step down due to her illness. Karin lived in Los Angeles, where she grew up. She is survived by her husband, Russell Ferguson, as well as her mother and brother.

"Throughout her illness, Karin was remarkably courageous and continued to live her life with zest, even taking up cycling and traveling to visit the White House for an event organized by The White House Historical Association and hosted by Michelle Obama in celebration of American art. Life is precious and short, and goes fast. Karin was an inspiration for how we should make the most of every single day, and appreciate every single hour. It is a testament to Karin's gift for friendship that more than 500 people attended her memorial in Los Angeles in early December. Karin was a wonderful classmate and a dear and loving friend, and she is missed hugely."

Thank you, Karen.

As an existential psychologist, I know — and I always remind people — that while death is what makes life precious and fragile, we have to celebrate life. And we do have a celebration in our class as well, as we congratulate **Nancy Silver Basri** and her husband, Bill Basri '84, who received the wonderful news on early decision that their son Noah will be a member of the Class of 2018. Nancy wrote,

"He will join our older son, Ross '15E, on campus next fall. Bill and I are excited and proud to share the Columbia tradition with our newest Lion-to-be and are looking forward to four more years of eating at V&T."

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Positive reviews of last spring's 25th Alumni Reunion Weekend continue to roll in. **Margaret Traub-Aguirre** writes, "It really warmed my heart to see so many fantastic people, whom I've missed and whose lives have developed so wonderfully. We really have the greatest graduating class. Plus I feel like no one has aged!" (Columnist's note: I guess I'm in the minority on that last point.) Margaret is director of global communications at International Medical Corps, in which capacity she recently traveled to the Philippines for typhoon relief work.

Steve Stastny also shared that he and his wife, Lauren, enjoyed attending the reunion festivities. Steve, a Tulane Law graduate, has practiced law in Birmingham, Ala., for 21 years. After years of working for large firms, he opened a solo practice in 2011 and is listed in both the employment and commercial litigation sections of *Best Lawyers in America*. Steve and Lauren reside in Vestavia Hills, Ala., with their boys, John Michael (11) and Ross (8).

Also representing the Class of '88 in the legal profession is **David Stoll,** a partner in the trusts and estates department of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy in New York. "I live in Carnegie Hill," David says. "I run through campus virtually every weekend on my way to Riverside Park and still love seeing it."

Donna Renaud Schober has "been busy for the past several years as an active Columbia Alumni Representative Committee (ARC) member, interviewing approximately 30 applicants per year. My daughter, Morgan, spent last summer in Barnard's High School Pre-College Program Summer in the City and had a blast covering more boroughs than I ever did! Because she's now a high school senior, I am taking a sabbatical year from ARC. In the past year I've been able to catch up with Tom Boytinck '90 and Tom Kamber '89."

Congratulations to our newest Columbia legacy parents, spouses **Michael Argenziano** and **Maria Rodino.** Michael writes, "My oldest son, Michael, was accepted to Columbia via early decision and will be in the Class of 2018, continuing the Columbia tradition that Maria and I started 30 years ago. Michael is the oldest of our six children and is thrilled to be a Lion.

"Maria and I met at Columbia in 1987, were married in 1994 and live with our kids in Closter, N.J. Maria is an endocrinologist in private practice and I am a cardiac surgeon, currently chief of adult cardiac surgery at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University Medical Center and associate professor of surgery at Columbia. I see and work with many of our classmates and credit Columbia for so many of the opportunities that I've had."

Another parent who is *kvelling* (bursting with pride) is **Carl Schaerf,** whose son, Gabriel, completed his bar mitzvah ceremony at Congregation Agudath Israel of West Essex, in Caldwell, N.J., in December. "My son performed beautifully and led the service from start to finish," Carl writes. "He put on *tefillin* (prayer phylacteries) competently, unlike his father, who stumbled on it." The Class of '88 was well represented at the bar mitzvah, as **Jonathan Lavine, Daniel Goldberger, Andrew Hyman, Hal Shapiro** and Molly Chrein '88 Barnard were all on hand for mazel tovs.

Keep the updates coming! I look forward to your emails. I also encourage everyone to join the Columbia College Class of 1988 Facebook page; it's a convenient way to stay in touch.

REUNION WEEKEND
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I'm thrilled that our long-awaited reunion is nearly upon us and, even more importantly, that I've heard from so many classmates who are planning to go. The Reunion Committee has been in full swing planning a full and exciting weekend. Even if you can only come for a few hours, it'll be worth it because, as one of our 25th reunion organizers, **Matt Engels,** says, "The 25th reunion is it — the next big reunion after this one, we'll all be running around NYC with artificial hips and knees, and it just won't be the same."



Columbians gathered to celebrate the bar mitzvah of Carl Schaerf '88's son, Gabriel, on December 1. Left to right: Schaerf, Andrew Hyman '88, Molly Chrein '88 Barnard, Jonathan Lavine '88, Hal Shapiro '88 and Daniel Goldberger '88.
PHOTO: OLGA STARR

It's never too late to sign up to attend and join in the fun. But why not do so now? The dates are Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1, and you can register at reunion.college.columbia.edu.

Sharon Bernecki DeJoy is an assistant professor of health at West Chester University of Pennsylvania, where she directs the undergraduate program in health promotion. Sharon says, "I am also a certified professional midwife, although I am not currently practicing. My husband, two youngest kids, dog, cat, hamster and I live together peaceably in southeastern Pennsylvania."

Amy Asch recently shared that she lives in Inwood (the tippity top of Manhattan, near Columbia's football stadium) and is working for *Playbill*, singing with Riverside Choral Society and "looking forward to reunion."

Michael Barry writes, "I am a real estate developer and hotelier. I own a company, along with my brother, David '87, called Ironstate Development (ironstate.net). I develop and own properties in New York City, Jersey City, Hoboken and other urban areas in the region." Michael also shares that he has joined the Columbia University Medical Center Board of Advisers. Michael is not a medical doctor but the board is made up of individuals with varied professional backgrounds.

I heard from fellow Carman 11 resident **Eric Altbach,** who has lived in Washington, D.C., since 1997. He worked primarily in government before moving to the private sector last year to join the Albright Stonebridge Group, a global commercial diplomacy firm founded by former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and former National Security Adviser Sandy Berger. Eric is an s.v.p., assisting clients in China and other Asian markets. Prior to joining the firm, Eric was the deputy assistant U.S. trade representative for China affairs, responsible for Taiwan and China. From 2004 to 2006 he was at the White House as the National Security Council's director for Asian economic affairs. Eric also has held a number of positions at the Department of State covering Asian economic issues in the Bureau of Intelligence and Research.

Eric is married to Michelle McGrath, a social worker, and they have a daughter, Catherine (6). Eric has periodically stayed in touch with a number of his CC classmates from Carman 11, including **Rob Kaplan,** a partner at Debevoise and Plimpton, who also lives in Washington, D.C.; **Gina (Shishima) Sosa,** a patent attorney in Austin; **Laura Offut,** a doctor in Philadelphia; **Matt Irvine,** a police lieutenant in San Francisco; and honorary Carman resident **Karen (Mochizuki) Kano.** Eric's New Year's resolution is to catch up with all of them soon.

Mark Zoland is a surgeon in private practice in NYC, practicing open and advanced laparoscopic surgery. He writes, "My specialty and passion is sports hernia surgery. I have recently been granted patents on two inventions: a new mesh for inguinal hernia surgery, and a tray that promotes sharps safety in the operating room. The

Jenji Kohan '91 Finds Humor and Truth In Life's Darker Moments

By Kim Martineau '97J

In a period that many would describe as a golden age for television, **Jenji Kohan '91** has created not one but two hit TV shows: *Weeds*, a satirical take on the war on drugs, and *Orange Is the New Black*, an equally subversive look at the criminal justice system. Queen of a new, edgier brand of storytelling, the Emmy-winning Kohan has found a way to bring laughs and sharp social commentary to mainstream television.

"Jenji is one of the great showrunners of our time," says Kevin Beggs, chairman of Lionsgate Television Group, producer of *Weeds, Orange* and *Mad Men*. "It feels like every one of her characters is real, and not a television creation. That is a unique skill set."

To survive in show biz it helps to have a thick skin. Kohan developed hers around the dinner table, where she tested wits against a family of writers: Emmy-winning father, Buz; acclaimed novelist mother, Rhea; and twin older brothers, Jono and David (co-producer of the '90s sitcom *Will & Grace*). In the Kohan household, bathroom humor was dismissed as too easy, and the bar to say something funny and original was set almost impossibly high. "Comedy was serious business in my house," she says.

Growing up in Beverly Hills, Kohan had an early narrative ear that was tuned toward the Valley, where her mother insisted all the "interesting stories" could be found. But when it came time for college, Kohan went East, first to Brandeis, then transferring to Columbia as a sophomore. "I liked the legacy, the campus and the Core Curriculum," she says. "You're there to learn and grow and absorb and figure stuff out."

One of the things Kohan hoped to figure out was how to break into New York's spoken word scene. Aspiring to be the next Spalding Gray or Joe Frank, she landed an internship at Franklin Furnace, a performance art space located at the time in TriBeCa, where she ran errands and helped set up shows.

On weekends, Kohan explored. From Morningside Heights to SoHo, she wandered a different avenue each time. "I'd stop in places and listen in on conversations," she said. "In New York City, there's always something funny going on." Her friend Miya Lippit '91 remembers Kohan dragging her to estate sales not so much for the vintage finds but more to catch a glimpse of something intimate about people's lives. "It was never obnoxious," says Lippit. "It was just her curiosity; she was always observing."

While honing her powers of observation off-campus, Kohan concentrated in English and pushed the envelope in her writing at school. Lippit remembers with a hint of envy the "A" that Kohan earned for a paper that used an Elvis bust lamp to launch a discussion of philosophers John Locke and David Hume.



Jenji Kohan '91 (right) and *Orange Is the New Black* actress Dascha Polanco ("Dayanara Diaz") on set at Kaufman Astoria Studios in Queens during a Season 1 filming break. To show her support, Kohan often wore an orange backpack and matching accessories to shoots.

In her spare time, Kohan wrote fiction. After winning several contests, she wondered if she might be able to write for TV after Columbia. Her boyfriend was skeptical. "You'd have a better chance of getting elected to Congress than getting on the staff of a television show," he told her.

Undeterred, she drove cross-country and settled with a friend in Santa Cruz, Calif., where she began writing speculative scripts for *Roseanne, Seinfeld* and *The Simpsons*. One day she handed her scripts to her sister-in-law's father, who passed them to a literary agent. Soon Kohan was working on *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air* starring Will Smith.

Kohan worked on several more shows, including *Friends* and the sketch-comedy show *Tracey Takes On,* with Tracey Ullman. Itching to create a series of her own, she wrote the pilot for *Weeds*, a comedy-drama about a widowed soccer mom turned dope dealer. Kohan says she wanted to do an outlaw show, and that while pot was illegal it was the "funny drug. It served my goals," she says.

Showtime bought it, and across an eight-season run that ended in 2012, *Weeds* racked up numerous awards, including Emmys for cinematography and sound mixing. The show was nearing its end when a friend mailed Kohan a copy of the memoir *Orange Is the New Black,* about a Smith graduate who goes to jail for a drug-smuggling stint in her past. Kohan saw in author Piper Kerman the opportunity to create a fictionalized version of the girl-next-door who could bring together worlds divided by race and class.

"We talk about this country as this big melting pot, but it's a mosaic," she told Terry Gross on NPR's *Fresh Air* last summer. "There are all these pieces that are next to each other. They're not necessarily mixing. I'm looking for those spaces where people actually do mix, and prison happens to be a terrific one."

Kohan pitched the idea to Netflix, which bought the series

unseen. With its second season premiering in June, *Orange* has also received critical acclaim. Taylor Schilling ("Piper Chapman") was nominated for a Golden Globe; Regina Spektor, who wrote the show's theme song, "You've Got Time," was nominated for a Grammy. Though *Weeds* and *Orange* are both premised on privileged white women breaking the law, Kohan warns that it would be "reductionist" to read more into her artistic intent. She is similarly cagey about whether drugs should be legalized or the criminal justice system reformed. Neither show explicitly makes a case for either. "I'm an entertainer," she says. "I'm here to start conversations. The criminal justice system is clearly broken but it's boring to sit and talk about that."

Avoiding formulaic conventions, Kohan has occasionally taken risks that her colleagues have warned against. After lead *Weeds* character Nancy Botwin burns down her house at the end of Season 3, Kohan insisted on changing the popular theme song, "Little Boxes," to customized main titles, or credits, signaling the show's transition to new narrative terrain. It was chancy but as a result, *Weeds* never got stuck in suburbia, unlike *Desperate Housewives*, says Beggs. "We say to ourselves at the studio, never bet against Jenji," he says.

There are also few sacred cows in her work. When it comes to getting laughs, all ethnic groups are fair game, not to mention potheads, narcissist moms, old people and gangsters. She is an equal opportunity offender, which is one reason, she says, she will rarely call out colleagues for making sexist remarks. What she will call out is work she considers substandard. "What offends me more than something sexist is something poorly written or unfunny or clichéd," she told *Fresh Air.*

The sly, antic humor that Kohan brings to her characters can be glimpsed in her public persona, from the cat-eye glasses to the tousled hair often dyed bright, punk-rocker hues. In her most recent Christmas card, she and her husband, writer Christopher Noxon, pose with their kids — ages 8, 12 and 14 — in matching Hoodie-Footie pajamas.

Kohan credits Ullman with helping her make the leap from writer to show-runner, a kind-of CEO of the series who controls all creative decisions, from writing to casting to the final cut. The Emmy she won as supervising producer on *Tracey Takes On* in 1999 sits on her mantle, and to this day, Kohan follows Ullman's "sane and healthy" management style. By that, Kohan means wine with lunch, no slacking off so that everyone goes home at a decent hour and creating a safe environment that encourages risk-taking. That combination has inspired an unusual degree of loyalty among her crew on *Weeds* and *Orange*, where "Jenji's sets and Jenji's rooms are happy sets and happy rooms," says Beggs.

In those sets and rooms, Kohan is training the next generation of talent, which will most certainly include more women. For now, she is one of few women to have risen so high. Her main motivation in striving to become the boss, she says, was to have flexibility in raising her family. As for her own creative needs, Kohan says she likes to work in a noisy room, usually coffee shops, with a bag of sunflower seeds and above all, a deadline ticking away.

She is working now on a new series about witches in Salem. It sounds like more gloomy material awaiting a humorous treatment but Kohan promises the series will look nothing like what has come before.

To listen to the interview with Kohan on NPR's Fresh Air, *go to Web Extras at college.columbia.edu/cct.*

Kim Martineau '97J *writes about earth and environmental science at Columbia's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory in Palisades, N.Y.*

two companies owning the mesh, SurgiSure and Conform, are in the process of bringing the products to market. I live in Scarsdale with my wife, Stacey, and have three boys, two dogs and a whole lot of fish."

Gil Greenman was married in September 2012 to Dr. Lisa Hebner Vila, a clinical psychologist. Gil says, "I split time between Washington, D.C., where I work at the law firm of Williams & Connolly, and Seattle, where Lisa lives with my three stepchildren, Audrey (15), Sam (13) and Joey (9). My children in Washington, D.C. (really, Alexandria, Va.), are Quinn (17) and Jacqueline and Julia (both 13)."

See you all very soon, I hope.

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Our class's Facebook group (Columbia College Class of 1990) is growing by leaps and bounds, right in time for reunion next spring (Thursday, May 28–Sunday, May 31, 2015). This group is a great place to catch up with classmates professionally and socially in between issues of *CCT*. To join, please message administrator **Emily Glickman** on Facebook and she will add you. To hold you over until you can get on Facebook, let's catch up with a few folks.

Nancy Pak; her husband, Jim Marshall; and their two children and dog are firmly ensconced in Warsaw, Poland, where they moved in July 2012. Nancy is the marketing director of the Central Europe East region for Colgate-Palmolive. The family is enjoying a more suburban existence (compared to their previous home of Bangkok) but Nancy still misses the Big Apple.

Adam Jacobs is "living on a former tree farm in rural New Hampshire with my wife, Vivian, and our daughter, Kara (3), who warms my former-linguist heart with her animated chatter in her three native languages: Italian, Hungarian and English. I left academia in 2006 and am now chief scientist at 1010data, a NYC-based 'big data' software firm. Most weeks I spend a couple of days in NYC and/or Cambridge, Mass.; I'd love to catch up with classmates in either area. Or come visit us in Hungary, where we spend a few weeks a year at our little place in the village of Hosszúhetény, near Pécs."

Margaret Flynn reports that her son, Carson Robison (6), Alexandra and Madeline Nobert (**Lisa Dabney** and **Craig Nobert**'s daughters) and Zachary and Lilah Shapiro (**Kirsten Mellor**'s kids) spent the night before Thanksgiving together in New York, continuing their parents' tradition of going to see the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade balloons being blown up. Margaret has a new job as a private banker at J.P. Morgan. This is the next step in a career that began in tech startups and then progressed to private equity/VC investing and advisory services. Margaret now helps individuals who had wealth created through tech IPOs and other sources to manage and grow their assets. She loves the more personal aspect of the work.

And that's all, folks. Hope to hear from you soon. You can write me at either of the addresses at the top of the column, or via *CCT*'s webform at college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Happy spring!

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Greetings, all!

Joel Rubenstein has returned to the United States after three years of working with a private equity firm re-launching bankrupt food companies in Scotland. Joel is now a v.p. with Nielsen's market and brand adviser group, based in Parsippany, N.J. He says he misses living in Edinburgh but says that access to NYC is a decent trade-off!

Jonathan Ross writes, "My wife and I welcomed twins (boy and girl, Leo and Hannah) earlier this year, thus bringing our brood to three along with Madeleine (4). We live in over-abundantly sunny Santa Monica, Calif., and love it. After working for Fox studios in film distribution, I am now actually 'making the film' as a film producer. I am currently producing a feature length film for HBO about the only verified person to have walked around the world. Look for it on HBO later this year (with a little luck). I would love to hear from and reconnect with other '91-ers."

In other career news, **John Chun** was appointed a judge to the King County Superior Court in Washington state. He reports that **Noah Elkin** recently visited Seattle and they had a terrific time at dinner. John lives in the Green Lake neighborhood of Seattle with his wife, Elizabeth '00 TC, and their two kids. They'd love to have Lions as guests!

Jacqueline Harounian was named a "New York Super Lawyer in Family Law" for the fourth consecutive year. She was also named one of "Top 50 Women Lawyers" in New York by *Super Lawyers*, as well as a "2013 Women Leaders in the Law" by *New York* magazine. An-

other highlight of the past year was her admission to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C. She was sponsored by Justice Jeremy Weinstein.

Elisabeth Porter is a supervising attorney at Choice Legal Group in Fort Lauderdale but her greatest joy is curating in her home her growing collection of her 4-year-old son's wonderful art (still using that art history degree).

Hope you all are having a great 2014 so far. And send in your news! You can write me at either of the addresses at the top of the column or via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Until next time … cheers!

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Music therapy, a dispatch from Japan, a fundraising start-up, a slow-lane social and How To Get Your Poem on a Street-Cleaning Truck — all in my inaugural column's packed mailbag! I hope I haven't forgotten anyone, and if those who wrote to catch up but didn't want to be in *CCT* have changed your minds, send up a flare!

The first person to respond was **Jessy Randall,** who sent a nostalgic nod to Tom's and a thought-provoking note about seeing one of her poems ("Why I Had Children") picked to adorn a street-cleaning truck in Sydney, Australia, as part of that city's writers festival. "How my poem got chosen is a mystery — other poems on other trucks were by Yeats, Rilke and Berryman, among others," she says. "This will clearly be the highlight of my poetry career."

It was fun to hear from fellow Carman 7 inhabitant **Wendy Greene,** who headed to Chicago after CC for film school and stayed for about six years. "That was seriously cold," she writes. She went to work as a producer and showrunner for A&E Network and Discovery Channel. Last year, she moved from production to network and is an executive producer for History, "where I oversee shows in production and develop new series. I love it."

David Abbott is finishing a master's in music therapy at NYU and interning at Beth Israel Medical Center. Music therapy? "A colleague's nutshell description is 'like shrinks with guitars,'" he explains, adding, "In the hospital, we tend to focus on alleviation of pain and anxiety but can also get into deeper, more psychotherapeutically oriented work, especially with patients facing life-threatening illness."

David and his wife, Ishaani, recently bought and renovated a co-op in Jackson Heights, Queens.

I envy **Patricia Nanus Ireland**'s ability to hit Tom's anytime — she's on West 108th Street — and admire her self-discipline. "In 2012 I started swimming in the mornings with a masters/triathlon team at Dodge. Anyone nearby who is looking for a workout should join us," she writes. "I'm in the slow lane." She and her husband, Kelly, recently welcomed their fourth child, Rieve, whose arrival made it two boys and two girls. Patricia also gives seminars as a licensed presenter of "Parenting is Heart Work."

Our next update takes this column from the Upper West Side to Tokyo. **Laurie (Freeman) Lebrun** has been living in Japan for 8½ years with her husband, Ken; their daughter, Sylvan (11½), and son, Max (10). "Oh yes, and two Labradoodles," she says. Laurie has moved from being a practicing lawyer to recruiting them, as she built a Tokyo office for Major, Lindsey & Africa.

First-time Class Notes contributor **Chris O'Brien** recently launched a start-up, iKeedo.org, which he describes as "the only fundraising platform to monetize the actions of an opposing force." Suppose you support Cause X. You pledge to give a certain amount every time a powerful interest group takes to the Twitter social media site to oppose it. You can set a cap so that the interest group won't break the bank.

Dickie Bernard broke his Class Notes silence with a dispatch detailing how he went to Miami Law, clerked for a bankruptcy judge in Miami for a year, did stints for two NYC-based firms there and ultimately returned in 2001 to the Big Apple, where he practices corporate bankruptcy law and raises two daughters (13 and 10).

Chris O'Brien '92 launched a start-up, iKeedo.org, which he describes as "the only fundraising platform to monetize the actions of an opposing force."

You'll want to keep an eye out for **Kiernan O'Connor**'s book, expected in mid-2014 and tentatively titled *Boomer Doom: Why Boomers are Doomed to Fail at Retirement, and What You Can Do About It — Before It's Too Late!* To tide you over until then, how about kiernanoconnor.blogspot.com?

Kiernan lives in The Woodlands, Texas ("just north of Houston"). He and his wife, Jackie, are homeschooling their children, Patrick (10), Catherine (8), Mary Margaret (5) and Agnes (1). "I hope to return to writing fiction in the next couple of years: P.G. Wodehouse meets homeschooling — lots of ripe material in my life," he says.

Jennifer Madrid strongly urges all of you to have a voice in the next generation of Lions by joining the Alumni Representative Committee (for more info, go to undergrad.admissions.columbia.edu/admissions/archandbook/frontpage). "I do interviews as regional ARC chair of Westchester. It really does make a difference," she writes. Jennifer is married to Ivan Madrid '89 and hopes that one of their children will end up at Columbia — "but that's up to them." She loves being the 2014 co-chair for the Metro New York North Red & White Ball, which is hosted by the Red Cross.

As I write this column, there's a snowstorm in Jerusalem — a rare occurrence — per a report from **Tobie Strauss Sherebrin.** Tobie moved to Israel a month after graduation and earned a Ph.D. in Hebrew language from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She embarked on a one-year post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Toronto in August 2009, then extended her stay as a professor of modern Hebrew. That second year — "over winter break," in fact — she and Shi Sherebrin got married in New Jersey. A blizzard deterred about one-third of the expected guests but did not prevent Tobie and Shi from boarding a plane for Israel the next day for a celebration in Israel. That one was attended by the family of RivkA Matitya '89 Barnard (née Karin Zuckerman), who passed away in October 2010, and by Ilana Sobel '89 and her family. The couple moved back to Israel in August 2011. Tobie works at the Academy of the Hebrew Language. She adds: "Recently we had the pleasure of hosting Rob Scheinberg '91 and his family for lunch while they were visiting Israel for a week. They live in Hoboken, N.J., where Rob is the rabbi of a local synagogue."

Randa Grob-Zakhary chimed in from Switzerland with a cheerful summary of life since Morningside Heights: "M.D., Ph.D. (neuroscience), Johns Hopkins; McKinsey 01–04; start-up in early childhood education; now CEO of the LEGO Foundation since June 2012. Live near Zurich, Switzerland, with husband, Eric, and two LEGO fanatics, Gregory (7) and Ryan (5). **Sarah Wolman** and **Ken Levine** are here too!"

Alexandra Colacito (née Hershdorfer) wants to hear from you if you live in Massachusetts or Rhode Island — "closer to Providence than Boston." Her email is alexandra@colacito.com. She's a stay-at-home mom raising a 4-year-old son but plans to return to work when he starts kindergarten. She earned a law degree at UC Hastings in San Francisco in 1998 and practiced litigation before opting for the "more balanced life" of being a paralegal and using her fillable hours with hiking, camping, biking and traveling. She married solar engineer Mark Colacito in 2009; they live in North Attleboro, Mass. Alexandra is in touch with Eva **Graburn** ("via the Internet; she remains in Portugal") and **Dalia Cohen,** "because we play Scramble With Friends and Words With Friends together on our iPhones!"

And me? You'll have to write to find out.

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The Dynamic Duo is at it again! I recently heard from **Alan Freeman,** who reported that he and his wife, Remy, "joined (literally) dozens of other Columbia alumni for a showing of *If/Then,* the newest production by **Brian Yorkey** and Tom Kitt '96. Tom's wife, **Rita Pietropinto-Kitt,** was on hand for the show, as was **Jon Mathews,** and it was great to catch up with both of them. There were quite a few other Columbia friends there as well, including Amit Bose '94 and Liz Hale '93 Barnard. We had a preshow cocktail reception as well as a post-show 'talk-back' with Brian and Tom, who won a Pulitzer Prize in 2010 as well as three Tony Awards for their show *Next to Normal.* The new show was terrific, and it's been great fun to see them enjoy such success in such a difficult field. My best advice to classmates in the New York area is to buy tickets for the Broadway debut ASAP; they won't regret it."

I ordered tickets to see the show in March and can't wait.

[Editor's note: See feature with Yorkey and Kitt in this issue.]

And now, a shout-out to **Rachel Mintz,** who is essentially serving as my guest columnist for the remainder of this column! Rachel was able to provide updates from a lot of you.

Gina Neff is a professor of communications at the University

of Washington and spent 2012–13 on sabbatical in New York. Her husband, Phil Howard, is also a professor at UW and joined her at reunion events last spring. She recently wrote a book on startup culture in New York City called *Venture Labor: Work and the Burden of Risk in Innovative Industries*, and she has a fellowship at Central European University's Institute for Advanced Study, in Budapest, to complete her next book on mobile data and health hacking. She has two 5-year-old boys, Hammer and Gordon. If that doesn't sound like it will keep her busy enough, the family will be shuttling between Seattle and Budapest for the next two years.

Dennis Kiely '96L also made an appearance at reunion. He is a real estate attorney and lives on the Upper West Side — not too far from Columbia — with his wife, Lena '01L, a bank regulatory attorney, and children, Norah (7) and Fiona (5).

Elena Cabral '99J may have had one of the shortest treks to reunion. She came from her office at the Journalism School, where she teaches and advises students. Previously, she worked for the *Miami Herald* and Scholastic News, and she is thrilled to be back at alma mater. Elena and her husband, David, have two children, Sebastian (10) and Paloma (6). She had a blast reconnecting with old pals at the festivities.

Another short commute was had by **Joe Laszlo.** Living at West 110th and Broadway meant he couldn't claim travel as an excuse to miss the festivities. Joe is making good use of his master's in international relations (from The Fletcher School); he helps manage the mobile division of the Interactive Advertising Bureau, which he describes as "the United Nations of Internet media companies." Getting a fractious and highly competitive industry to agree on standards for digital marketing is a continual test of diplomacy skills.

Arsenio Santos traveled far to partake in reunion, coming from his home in the San Francisco Bay Area, where he has lived for 20 years. For the past two years, he has been quietly focused on breathing life into Circa, his news startup company. He says the only vacation that he has taken of late was to reunion!

Adrian Bordoni both planned and participated in reunion. He is the executive director of Woodside on the Move, a grassroots community organization. Among other things, he is partnering with tech companies, schools and nonprofits to coordinate the first Queens-wide 3-D printing and robotics competition for fourth, fifth and sixth graders as well as an after-school financial literacy program; the students will create business plans and help market products as part of this year's fundraising efforts to purchase a building for the organization. He was recently recognized for his work on behalf of Queens and was named a Queens Fellow, part of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York. Adrian was honored for his work strengthening the borough, valuing its diversity through proactively uniting neighborhoods and communities, building partnerships and advancing the next generation of leaders.

Luckily, **Dave Shimkin** made it to reunion before his move to the West Coast last summer. He works at Cozen O'Connor's Los Angeles office, after taking and passing the California bar. He lives and works in downtown L.A. and his practice focuses on hospitality, construction, food and environmental clients.

Paul Bua writes, "Greetings from San Francisco. Been out in the Bay Area/Silicon Valley for 14 years after playing politics in the Beltway and gigs in Boston and New York. Working on Paul v 3.0 at this point, as the tech scene here is moving fast and furious. Interesting times. Still trying to wrap my head around graduating 20 years ago. Was happy to attend our reunion briefly (was recovering from illness) and see some classmates. Still get back to New York regularly to see family and friends and hope to be more bicoastal in 2014. If you are heading to the Bay Area or want to talk tech (data science, Internet policy, etc.) drop me a line."

Sharad Samy made it to reunion with his wife, Katherine; unfortunately, he was the only member of his 616 Suite Posse to do so. He met Katherine in London in 2009. She is from Wales, and a graduate of the University of Cambridge. They have two girls, Seren (3) and Cariad (1), and live in Darien, Conn., with their dog, Marlin. In early 2010, Sharad resigned as a partner in Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe and became the general counsel of Aladdin Capital Holdings, a Stamford-based hedge fund. Sharad reports that "after a long evening at The West End during reunion, **Dev Lahiri;** his wife, Mythili Rao Lahiri '94 Barnard; Raj Ananth '93E; and his wife, Alexandra, stayed at our house for a weekend retreat. It was a great catch-up after reunion, and Seren was very, very excited to have her first sleepover, as both couples' kids stayed over as well."

Some classmates were not able to make it to reunion but there were good reasons. Here is news from some of them, and hopefully all of you will make it to our 25th!

George Kolombatovich moved to Los Angeles last summer to begin work for the new mayor of L.A., Eric Garcetti '92, '93 SIPA. George is Eric's associate director of homeland security and public safety. He helps to oversee the police, fire and emergency management departments, the mayor's crisis response team, the gang reduction and youth development program, and security at LAX and the Port of Los Angeles. He says that he is having an amazing time working with Eric.

Oliver Staley '93 is a reporter at Bloomberg News in London, and he and his family enjoy life across the pond.

In August **Rebecca Shulman Herz** moved to Peoria, Ill., with her husband, Nathaniel, and their children, Charlotte (11) and Alex (9). Rebecca is a museum and art education consultant and blogs about the field at rebeccaherzconsulting.com; click on "blog."

Alex Khutorsky, who lives in New York, was sorry to have missed reunion and hopes to make it next time around.

Robert Tsai joined Merrill Lynch right after graduation in 1993 and, after finishing the analyst training program, was sent to its Hong Kong office. He worked for the company in the equities department for 17 years, primarily in equity derivatives trading and proprietary trading. In 2011, Rob joined Soros Fund Management's Hong Kong office as a portfolio manager, managing money for the Quantum Endowment Fund, but left the firm last year. Presently he is semi-retired and taking it easy by doing lots of hiking, golf and traveling. Rob met his wife in Hong Kong and they have two boys (14 and 10), both born and raised in Hong Kong.

Maria Ricci is back in New York City after a short assignment in Washington, D.C. She continues her valiant work as an International Woman of Mystery.

Oliver Staley is a reporter at Bloomberg News in London. His children are 6 and 3, and he and his family enjoy life across the pond.

Eliza Gallo was unable to make it to reunion due to the birth in May of her first child, Ivy, who was promptly modeling Columbia garb. Eliza is enjoying the adventure of parenting. She recently moved back to New York City from Santa Monica, Calif., and is doing social media consulting for several education and nonprofit clients.

Thanks to Rachel for all the updates and thanks to all of you who shared them. Please continue to send news!

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1

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Our 20th reunion is getting closer! Hard to believe that so much time has passed since graduation but I hope you're saving the date for Alumni Reunion Weekend, Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. Our Reunion Committee has been hard at work planning activities for our group, plus there will be a range of multi-class events that we can take part in. Saturday is also Dean's Day, which offers the chance to relive our classroom experiences through lectures with some of Columbia's finest professors. It all leads up to our class dinner on Saturday, followed by dancing under the stars at the Starlight Reception. For more information and to register, go to reunion.college.columbia.edu.

And now, a few updates from our fellow CC '94 classmates:

Roy Gal sent a lovely note, highlighting his 11/11/11 marriage to Christine Norred, which **Joseph Biello** attended. Roy also shared the more recent happy news that on July 24, 2013, he and Christine welcomed a son, Peregrine Joseph. Congrats!

Roy is now in his eighth year at the University of Hawaii Institute for Astronomy. Last year he became the head of outreach and fundraising for the institute, as well as lead for its national office as a partner in the Gemini Observatory, while still teaching and doing research. "Everyone is invited to see what the IfA is doing at facebook.com/uhifa or on Twitter @UHIfA," he adds.

Not many other written updates arrived this time though I did have a delightful, impromptu catch-up session with **Shawn Vietor More-**

head in New York during Thanksgiving weekend, as we wrangled our kids at the Museum of Mathematics in Manhattan. Catching up on two decades in five minutes is a challenge but I can tell you that Shawn lives in Brooklyn, is a lawyer for a foundation, looks great and has a beautiful family. More than anything, I'm grateful that she saw me and shouted out as I aimlessly wandered around with the baby in her stroller.

Also on that Thanksgiving trip, I caught up with **Danny Franklin** and his kids, who trekked into Manhattan from their home in Brooklyn to hang out for an afternoon. Danny is on the leadership team at Benenson Strategy Group, the research and consulting firm that ran award-winning polling programs for President Barack Obama '83's 2008 and 2012 campaigns. Danny is developing opportunities for the business after its recent acquisition by Kantar, the data investment management division of WPP.

Keep the updates coming! Until next time.

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I hope the occasion of our 40th birthdays will inspire classmates who have never written in to send an update.

Congratulations to **Mike Stanton** and **Jamie Bennett** on their new jobs.

Mike gave up his membership in a small subset of our class when he changed employers for the first time since leaving Columbia. He writes, "In November, I moved from *The Bond Buyer*, the financial newspaper where I spent 18 years in pretty much every role under the roof, to join a municipal-bond insurance company, Build America Mutual, as head of strategy and communications.

"Beyond that seismic event in my career, the rest of life remains stable — still commuting a little too long from White Plains (about 40 minutes north of Manhattan). My wife, Beth '95J, and I are bracing for the tween years with our kids (10 and 8), who already fill our 'free time' with everything from synchronized swimming to chess tournaments and Cub Scouts."

Mike did take a detour from *The Bond Buyer* to earn a degree at Harvard Business School in 2002. His wife sits two rows away from me at Bloomberg, where she covers U.S. interest rate markets.

Jamie in January became executive director of ArtPlace America, a collaboration of philanthropic foundations, financial institutions and federal agencies that promote the inclusion of arts in community development strategies.

Jamie has had a long history of working in the arts. His previous job was at the National Endowment for the Arts, where — since joining the group in 2009 — he was chief of staff and director of public affairs. He also has been chief of staff in two other jobs, at the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and to Columbia's president, Lee C. Bollinger. He provided strategic counsel to the Agnes Gund Foundation from 1997 to 2005.

Jamie writes that he loved his time in Washington, D.C., where he happily discovered good theater and restaurants. Among some memorable Columbia events were an alumni evening for Tom Kitt '96 and Brian Yorkey '93's *If/Then* at the National Theater [see feature in this issue] and **Juliet Bellow**'s show, *Diaghilev and the Ballets Russe*, at the National Gallery of Art this past fall. Juliet, my freshman-year Carman suitemate, teaches art history at American.

Back in New York, Jamie is excited to be living in Brooklyn Heights.

Jesse Levitt '97's new Brooklyn restaurant, 1 Knickerbocker, is located in a former speakeasy and brothel and will offer a contemporary take on turn-of-the-19th-century fare in NYC.

The SG Cares team is continually professionalizing the nonprofit sector through new resources, training and consultancy projects; they are also one of the sector's largest grant-makers. Their corporate community investment team helps corporations develop better CSR programs and tools, and their philanthropy division champions informed giving through the development of tools, processes and research while also helping families and corporations better design their giving programs. Aun writes that it is an exciting and rewarding path for him.

Anastasia Thanopoulos (née Yatrakis) and her husband, Billy Thanopoulos '95, live in Brooklyn and have three sons, George (8), Niko (6) and Teddy (2). Anastasia is busy working in real estate as an associate broker with Skyline Realty, and Billy is in his second year with his restaurant, two8two Bar & Burger in Boerum Hill. Their nephew, George Thanopoulos '16, is playing on the baseball team this year.

Stephen Gargiulo is a managing director in the fixed income sales and trading team at the global financial services firm Cantor Fitzgerald & Co. Stephen joined Cantor from Citigroup, where he was a director and senior CMBS trader in the global securitized markets business. Prior, he was a managing director in mortgage trading at Bear Stearns.

Keep those notes coming, my fellow CC '96ers. Otherwise I will have to fill this column with personal notes about my children (e.g., Isabelle lost her third tooth recently and Maximillian is obsessed with Batman). Until next time, I leave you with this throwback:

"Lunch is for wimps."

— Gordon Gekko

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Aun Koh decided to step out of operational work with the communications agency The Ate Group, which he and his wife founded, to start a journey within the nonprofit sector (Ate is still being run by Aun's wife, Su-Lyn Tan, and business partners). His new post is director of marketing, advocacy and development as well as the corporate community investment division at the National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre, Singapore. NVPC is Singapore's leading connector of volunteers and donors with appropriate charities and nonprofits. It is also the lead capacity builder for the sector, providing leadership programs, skills training and grants for nonprofits, and it runs Singapore's biggest online donations portal (SG Gives) as well as the country's most comprehensive volunteers portal (SG Cares).

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In November, **Sarah Bunin Benor** won the Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature's Choice Award for her book, *Becoming Frum: How Newcomers Learn the Language and Culture of Orthodox Judaism*. In addition she was included in the *The Jewish Daily* "Forward 50" 2013 list of influential Jews.

Jill Jacobs gave birth to a daughter, Dvir Hallel, in July. Sister Lior is 4. Jill is the executive director of T'ruah, a rabbinic human rights organization. She and her husband, Guy Austrian, also a rabbi, live in Washington Heights.

Dr. **Nelson Tieng** is one of five physician owners of a new urgent care practice, MDxpress Urgent Care, in Mamaroneck, N.Y., which opened in March 2013 (mdxpress.com).

Boris Kachka reports that his son, Asher Elias, was born October 5; he's happy, healthy and growing nice and chubby.

Aba (Yankah) Rogers and her husband, Bradford Rogers, welcomed a daughter, Aria, on September 7.

Jesse Levitt '00 GSAS has opened a restaurant, 1 Knickerbocker, in Brooklyn. The restaurant is located in a former speakeasy and brothel, of which some of the original architectural features have been restored, and will feature a contemporary take on turn-of-the-19th-century restaurant fare in NYC. Everyone is invited for dinner and hopefully soon for brunch as well.

Liliana Lopez is senior officer of corporate communications at Amtrak. She is editor in chief of *Amtrak Ink* magazine. Liliana lives in Bethesda, Md., with her daughter.

Malla Haridat has a new role on the Center for Career Development's Professional Pathway Program's team at Manhattan College as the employer and alumni outreach specialist. Last summer, she was named a finalist in the Count Me In Urban Rebound program for her business, Mom and Daughters.

Desiree Ramos Reiner is celebrating two years as deputy director of communications at the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law, where she says she has the pleasure of working with lots of Columbia College alums, including its president, Michael Waldman '82. Desiree is also enjoying her newest family addition, Alejandro Noah, born last April. He and his brother, Antonio Tomas (3), should be hitting Morningside Heights in 2028.

Nicolay Todorov lives in Los Angeles and is producing a documentary on tornadoes for The Weather Channel. Another documentary series he produced this year, *Futurescape*, aired in the fall on Discovery Science.

Tracy Hammond, director of the Sketch Recognition Lab and a professor at Texas A&M, is making waves with computerized navigational technology that she

and her graduate and undergraduate students have created. In 2010, a military official asked Tracy if she could come up with a navigational system for paratroopers. "These paratroopers are jumping out of their plane in the middle of the night, trying to find their location," she explains. Tracy and her team designed a vest that uses Haptic technology, or vibration sensors. A vibration on the right or left shoulder indicates a turn.

John D. Alfone writes that after eight emotionally grueling years as part of the post-Katrina New Orleans cultural renaissance, he is packing his bags and expanding his Gulf Coast Godfatherdom by relocating to Houston. Highlights from last year included his annual visit to the fair city of L.A. with his video production company, Corsair Media Productions, where he met up with Gloria Bradbury '97, the head of marketing for animators Brain Zoo Studios. He was also in production last summer on a 1950s period piece, *The Arnold Travels*, for which he is seeking distribution as well as a sales agent.

Darrell Cohn sent a note from Jerusalem, where it snowed the day he emailed me (December 12). He recently started working for a startup, Woxxer.com, in the product management group. Darrell's wife, Leah, is a modern dancer with the Jerusalem Dance Project.

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Happy spring, Class of 1998! I'm afraid there's not much to report this issue, although we do have our first update from **Eugenia Zuroski Jenkins**.

Gena writes, "I've never submitted an update for *CCT*, but 2013 was a pretty big year so I thought I'd share. I live in Hamilton, Ontario, with my husband, Derek. We have a daughter, Ruby Lynn (2). I'm a professor of English and cultural studies at McMaster University, where I recently received tenure, and my book, *A Taste for China: English Subjectivity and the Prehistory of Orientalism*, was published in May."

Congratulations, Gena!

And to the rest of the class: Let's aim for a full column next time — I know you have exciting news to share, whether it's about family, career, travel or personal accomplishments (or perhaps you have something to say about all of them!). You can write me at either of the addresses at the top of the column or via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1
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By the time you read these Class Notes, we'll be a few months shy of our 15-year Alumni Reunion Weekend, which will be held Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. Our Reunion Committee is in full swing with planning; we held an informal gathering at the Lambs Club in NYC on November 21, and will continue organizing and finalizing events through the spring. Of course, the highlight will be our class dinner on Saturday, followed by the Starlight Reception on Low Plaza. Check our Facebook page for news: facebook.com/groups/ColumbiaCollege99. And for information about the weekend at large and to register, go to reunion.college.columbia.edu.

On to some updates!

Rebecca Pawel shares the good news that she returned to Columbia in September as a Ph.D. student in the Department of English and Comparative Literature. She says it's utterly weird being a full-time student again, especially after spending so many years on the other side of the desk as a high school teacher — a bit like being 18 again! She had a pretty good time as an undergrad but admits she's having even more fun the second time around.

We wish her the best of luck in her new journey!

Boris Peresechensky has been living in Florida for 10 years. (No doubt he enjoys better winter weather than we in the Northeast, given our single-digit temps of late. I'm envious!) Boris manages fixed income investments at a boutique investment management firm, Semper Capital Management.

Classmates, please do not hesitate to email me with updates or questions as we approach reunion! You can also send news via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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Kim Worly Salzman is an attorney for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Tel Aviv, Israel, and is the proud mother to 2-year-old boy and girl twins.

Edgar Lewandowski and his wife, Melanie, welcomed a son to their family last April (their second child) and Edgar was elected partner at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett in November.

Jordan M. Rosenbaum was named partner at Stroock & Stroock & Lavan. His corporate practice focuses on capital markets and securities, corporate governance, mergers and acquisitions, private and public securities offerings, corporate reorganizations and general corporate law.

I was excited to get an email from **Carrie Russell**, who writes, "My first novel, *Drowning Cactus*, came out last summer. It's satirical fiction about an urban gardening instructor and a cactus thief who unwittingly find themselves in the middle of a controversy about the U.S.-Mexican border. You can read about it on my website: carrierussellbooks.wordpress.com.

"I was for a number of years an environmental attorney but once my children were born (now 2 and 5), I took some time off and returned to writing, which I studied at Columbia. I'm living in Scotland while my husband, a psychology professor, is on sabbatical from his job in Pennsylvania, which we usually call home."

I had the pleasure of visiting old friends **Rashmi Menon, Heidi Yeung** and **Erica Easley** in southern California in January, where they all live. Rashmi and her husband, Jason Kanji, have two boys, Vivek and Nikhil, and live in Los Angeles. Heidi and her husband, **Jim Murphy '00E**, live in San Diego with their daughter, Laura. Rashmi, Heidi and Jim are doctors and Erica, who also lives in L.A., runs a successful sock company, Gumball Poodle (gumballpoodle.com). We were all excited to learn that Beyoncé wore Erica's "gangsta" socks in her "Pretty Hurts" music video.

That's all for now, but I'd like to hear from more of you; I know there's lots of news to be shared. You can write me at either of the addresses at the top of the column or via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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Though we're several months in, this is my first chance to wish everyone a Happy New Year. I hope it's off to a great start!

Annie Marquit (née Lainer) and her husband, Jonathan, welcomed their first child, Samuel Rafael Marquit, on November 15. Annie and her family reside in Los Angeles, so I'm fortunate to be able to see them regularly.

Richard Plotkin and his wife, Emily, welcomed their first child, Arya Emily, on August 10. They happily reside in Buffalo, N.Y.

Congratulations to both couples!

Last summer **Jonathan Lemire** left New York's *Daily News* after 12 years to take a job with the Associated Press. He reported on New York City's 2013 mayoral election and now covers City Hall and the Bill de Blasio administration. He and his wife, Carrie Melago '04 GSAS, a metro news editor at *The Wall Street Journal*, were named one of *The New York Observer*'s "Media Power Couples" for 2014. They live in Cobble Hill, Brooklyn, with their son, Beckett (2).

Thanks to all who wrote in. Please keep in touch! You can write me at either address at the top of the column or via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

02

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Happy 2014, CC'02! It may seem a while ago that we rang it in, but I wish you a happy and healthy year, with plenty of updates to share.

Zena (Park) Tsai had another healthy baby, this time on June 2. His name is Kyle Emerson Tsai. He was born at 8 lbs., 11 oz., and 20.5 inches. He joins sister Zoe, who is

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Trevor Sagan '02 married Lauren Connor in Palo Alto, Calif., on October 5. Left to right: John Culley '04; Laura Pietropinto '00; Victoria Dower '03 and her husband, Graham Dower '03E; the bride; the groom; Sarah Keck and her husband, best man David Keck '04; and Leslie Goodman and her husband, Eli Goodman '02.

PHOTO: VERO SUH

26 months older.

Sheethal Shobowale's son will turn 2 on April 15. She has been working at Google in media research for 3½ years and can be reached at sheethalshobowale@gmail.com.

Trevor Sagan was married to Lauren Connor in Palo Alto, Calif., on October 5. The couple honeymooned in Bora Bora. Trevor runs a production company, Sasquatch Films, and recently started working at Facebook headquarters in Menlo Park, Calif.

Also at the wedding were John Culley '04; Laura Pietropinto '00; Victoria Dower '03; Graham Dower '03E; best man, David Keck '04, and his wife, Sarah; **Eli Goodman** and his wife, Leslie; and Justin Restivo, a student in the Film Studies Program at SoA.

Christopher Allen was featured in The Huffington Post in December in an article about arts organizations that are dedicated to community-building with "programs that are innovative, challenging and diverse." He is the founder and director of UnionDocs Center for Documentary Art, in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, a community of experimental media-makers, journalists and artists who present, produce and publish various works of art. After Columbia, Christopher studied at Trinity College Dublin, then was a social entrepreneur, a documentary director and a new media artist.

Also in the arts, **Viviana Rodriguez** has started a film production company with her husband and co-producer, Stuart Luth '01 Colby. Morning Dove Films focuses on narrative work with social interest themes.

Andres Zuleta has officially launched his new company, Boutique Japan. You can reach him at boutiquejapan.com.

Let's fill up the mail bag for next time. You can write me at either of the addresses at the top of the column, or via *CCT*'s webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

03

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Happy Year of the Horse, to those who celebrate the Lunar New Year.

I was fortunate to catch up with a few classmates during my travels during the winter holidays, including **Jeffrey Hsieh** and **Andrew Han '03E** in Hong Kong and **Kenneth Sim** and **Shaun Ting** in Singapore. Jeff was visiting Andrew, who is doing a rotation with Hasbro in its Hong Kong office, and Kenneth and Shaun live in Singapore.

In other news, **Adam Libove** writes, "In October my wife and I moved to Sunnyside, Queens. It's a great community and we are enjoying have more space."

Ariel Schrag writes, "My novel, *ADAM*, will be published in June."

Justin Sellman shares, "I'm developing a travel bag line for the savvy international traveler and festival-goer. I'm also working with fashion brands to make their businesses more efficient through the use of iPad logistics technology."

Jessica Macari writes, "My husband, Ariel, and I welcomed Eli Isaac on July 19. He was 21 inches long and weighed 7 lbs., 5 oz. He joins sister Layla (2). We live in Raleigh, N.C."

Lien De Brouckere writes, "Last summer I moved to Washington, D.C., to join an NGO, Global Rights, as its director of natural resources and human rights. I really enjoy my work with local civil society organizations in Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda and Kenya to ensure resource-rich communities can assert their legitimate rights, meaningfully participate in the decisions that affect them and share in the benefits of resource development! Too often local communities are trampled on and forgotten, kicked out of their houses and off their farmlands, even though the iron ore, copper and other minerals their lands produce let us build our buildings, bridges, cars and essentially live our modern lives."

Jenny Bach-Lee (née Bach) married David Lee in June in Manhattan. Jenny is pursuing a master's in mental health counseling at Alliance Graduate School of Counseling, which is part of Alliance Theological Seminary; she will begin a counseling internship in May and will graduate in 2015. David graduated from Binghamton in 2005 and is an associate at RCC Ventures in Manhattan.

Matthew A. McMillan writes, "In November I was conference chairman for the 46th Annual International Association of Political Consultants World Conference, held in Antigua. I also sit on the board of directors of the organization. Through my firm, BuzzMaker, I've now advised heads of state, opposition leaders, senators and governors in 16 countries."

Please do send me updates about you and other classmates — I'd really appreciate them!

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1

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04

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Hello CC'04! I hope this edition of Class Notes finds you all well in your corner of the world. Before we get to the news, I remind you to mark your calendars: Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1 is our 10-year Alumni Reunion Weekend. Yes, it's hard to believe but it's been a full decade since we donned our Columbia blue caps and gowns and said goodbye to College Walk. The Reunion Committee has a number of great events planned, all culminating in a class dinner on South Lawn on Saturday. Please like the Columbia University - Class of 2004 Facebook page (facebook.com/CU2004) to stay up to date on all events and news. Also, go to reunion.college.columbia.edu to register for reunion and to the reunion preview in this issue's "Around the Quads" for info. Five years ago, we smashed reunion attendance records … let's aim to

David Johns '04, '06 TC Works to Improve Equity and Accountability in Education

By David McKay Wilson

Long involved in issues of race and education, **David Johns '04, '06 TC** now works in the White House, where he helps to lead the effort by President Barack Obama '83 to narrow the achievement gap for African-American students.

"I've had an interest in how educational opportunities are afforded to nontraditional students, including low-income minority students," says Johns, executive director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for African-Americans. "I've been grappling with these issues over the course of my lifetime."

Since joining the White House in February 2013, Johns has crisscrossed the nation, speaking to educators and community groups about the administration's dedication to improving equity in the U.S. education system. Its program begins with increasing access to quality pre-kindergarten and extends through K–12, where the administration wants to increase the supply of well-qualified teachers, develop more public-private partnerships and provide funding for community-based organizations that support students in their educational journey.

The administration has also pushed its accountability agenda through grants in its Race to the Top competition, which aims to hold teachers responsible, in part, for their students' academic achievements.

In the Midwest, Johns has worked with officials and educators in Detroit and St. Louis on creating access to school-based employment development opportunities for African-American men and boys. Making that leap from school to workforce is crucial for black men, who, Johns notes, face considerable challenges in American society.

Johns talks often about a 2002 study that said there are more black men in prison than in college. As a counter, he cites the work of Howard University associate professor Ivory Toldson, who found that in 2012 there were 600,000 more black men in college than prison. Johns says it's important to change the narrative and support educational programs for African-American men.

"We need to invest our time to engage with young boys of color," says Johns. "Black men are achieving at higher rates than in the past."

Education has played a big role in Johns' rise to the White House. Raised by a single mother in the predominantly minority Los Angeles suburb of Inglewood, he rode a bus 45 minutes each way to a charter school in Pacific Palisades, an upscale neighborhood on the city's west side.

At Columbia, Johns helped found Columbia University Concerned Students of Color after a series of campus incidents — including a satirical article in a campus publication and an organization's critique of affirmative action — sparked student debate on racial issues. It led to a week of silent protests in February 2004 by hundreds of students, who urged changes in the Core Curriculum, sensitivity training on racial issues and the creation of an office of multicultural affairs.

After graduation, Johns began teaching kindergarten at The School at Columbia University, where he was one of the few African-American teachers. A year later, he enrolled at Teachers College, where he delved into education policy.

"David is a terrific amalgam of idealism and pragmatism," says Aaron Pallas, professor of sociology and education at TC. "He remains idealistic about the promise of extending the American Dream to all children, regardless of the color of their skin. And his experience working on Capitol Hill has taught him how to craft policies that can garner bipartisan support."



David Johns '04, '06 TC leads White House efforts to shape educational policy.
PHOTO: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Johns' studies at TC led him to Washington, D.C., where as a fellow with the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation he worked on the reauthorization of the Head Start program, which funds early education for the children of poor families. He landed a job as an aide to U.S. Rep. Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.) and subsequently become a senior policy adviser to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

"I came to Washington to make a more systemic impact," says Johns. "It's important to find ways to scale up best practices, using policy as a tool to make changes on a larger scale."

Working on the Senate committee, Johns learned that legislation can move at a glacial pace. Talks on reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act — known as No Child Left Behind — began in 2007; they were not concluded by the time Johns left the committee in 2012 to work on Obama's reelection campaign, where he was policy and research director in the swing state of Nevada. Obama won the state by six percentage points, which raised Johns' profile in the Obama camp.

While acknowledging that No Child Left Behind was not a panacea for all that ails the U.S. education system, Johns says that the law's requirement that student achievement data be made public — and broken down by a student's race and socio-economic level — has brought much-needed attention to the needs of schools in the nation's poorest neighborhoods.

"The shining of a bright light on this data has resulted in a more thoughtful conversation on the underachievement of African-American students," says Johns. "And that conversation needs to continue."

David McKay Wilson, *a columnist at* The Journal News *in White Plains, N.Y., also writes for* TC Today *at Teachers College.*



Alumni met in December for an evening of art at Dave Fierman '05's gallery, Louis B. James, in Manhattan. Left to right: Paul Reyfman '05, Ling Wu Kong '05, Kavior Moon '05, Coco Cioroiu '04, Fierman and David Shapiro '01.

do it again!

Congratulations to **Andrew Briggie,** who married Melissa Jean Currier in November in Connecticut. Drew is a paralegal at the New York firm Fross Zelnick Lehrman & Zissu. The couple founded EV2BK Productions & Management, a New York company that manages local artists and bands.

Congratulations also go to **Solomon Moshkevich,** who married Ekaterina Moshkevich (née Ivanova) in October in Carmel, Calif. They met three years ago while both were studying at the Stanford Graduate School of Business. Katya is from Moscow, and the newlyweds now live in the Mission Dolores neighborhood of San Francisco.

Josh Forester recently became a national champion at the 2013 Checkpoint Tracker Adventure Racing National Championships, a 30-hour race through the wilderness. It involved orienteering, running, trekking, mountain biking, paddling, caving, shooting, cliff-diving, rappelling and urban tunneling.

Phil Wallace is now v.p. of business development at Ranker.com, which is based in Los Angeles.

In September, **Sophie Beal**'s book, *Brazil under Construction: Fiction and Public Works,* was published. Also, on Halloween, Sophie and her husband welcomed daughter Simone Victoria Shen into the world. Congrats, Sophie!

Christine Vu Luu moved to Memphis in August. She is a law clerk for a federal district judge and is having a great time. She hopes to begin practicing patent law after her clerkship, perhaps in Northern California, Seattle or Chicago.

Matthew McAndrews is starting an M.B.A. at Indiana's Kelley School of Business as well as a marketing leadership development program at DuPont. His plans also involve moving to Philadelphia, and he would love to connect with any Columbians in the area. You can reach him at mmcandrews@gmail.com.

Walker Young and his wife moved to Los Angeles so that he could start a job with The Walt Disney Co. He works in the international labor standards division, focused on the social compliance audit process across the extended supply chain. This division ensures that Disney-branded products are manufactured according to ethical and humane standards and best practices.

Jesse Stowell sent in news on a number of alums: "**Jaclyn Duran** recently returned from American Samoa for a program with the Department of the Interior. She lives in Washington, D.C., and regularly sees **Margaret Johnson '04E,** who moved to Baltimore with her husband. **Britney Williams** was recently named a director at USA Network in program acquisitions, and **Dan Jacobs** is attending the Business School's Executive Education Program while working at Clayton Dubliler & Rice. **Dominique (Phelps) Clayton** moved to Atlanta, while **Jon Sabatini** doesn't spend more than three days in any one city (though he's based in Boston) working for Accenture.

"I was recently made v.p. of public relations at Full Picture (the same company I worked for in college) and I'm handling publicity for Brooklyn Decker, Adriana Lima, Camila Alves, Revlon, vitaminwater, Living Proof and Zappos Couture."

See you all at reunion!

Columbia College Alumni on Facebook

Check out the Columbia College Alumni page!

facebook.com/alumnicc

Like the page to get alumni news, learn about alumni events and College happenings, view photos and more.

05

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Happy 2014, Class of 2005. Those two numbers are growing startlingly distant from one another …

Speaking of long distances, in November, I traveled from San Francisco to Delhi to celebrate the marriage of Aashti Bhartia '06 to Kunal Agarwal. It was a lovely celebration, not least for the wonderful Columbians in attendance. **Courtney Johnson** (a second-year M.B.A. student at the Stanford Graduate School of Business), **Elizabeth Dwoskin** and I were there from California. **Michael Crowley** and **Josh Hadro** made the trip from New York. **Matt Niederhauser** hopped over from his home base of Beijing (you might have seen his photographs recently in *The New Yorker, Bloomberg Businessweek* or London's National Portrait Gallery). **Anya Cherneff,** who lives in Amsterdam with her husband, **Bennett Cohen,** stopped en route to Nepal where her nonprofit, Empower Generation (empowergeneration.org), brings clean, affordable and safe energy products to people in need. All in all, Aashti and Kunal were thoroughly feted by their friends from around the world.

Read on for updates on adventures the world over:

Yuma Terada owns a Tokyo-based literary agency startup, Cork, exclusively representing Japan's most prominent novelists, manga artists and critics. He'd love to hear from anyone interested in working with his agency or its artists: yt2006@columbia.edu.

Ruven Ellberger '08L and his wife, Lauren Aliza, welcomed their second daughter, Liana Sarit, on December 23. Maya Rose (2) is thrilled to have a baby sister. Ruven is an in-house attorney and v.p. at Two Sigma Investments in New York City, a technology company that applies a rigorous, scientific method-based approach to investment management.

Daniella Ross is graduating from Michigan State's College of Veterinary Medicine this May.

Caitlin Verrilli '14 Business is a director at New York City Health and Hospitals Corp., focusing on healthcare IT.

Mollie Melissa Kornreich '09L was married in November to Matthew David Podolsky '09L. She is a litigation associate at the Manhattan firm Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom.

Also in November, **Nick Summers** married Eliza Gray '10J. Nick is a staff writer at *Bloomberg Businessweek* in New York, where he covers Wall Street.

Peggy Hannon reports, "In 2012 I relocated to San Francisco to be closer to my family and to work out of my company's headquarters in the Bay Area. As a national sales manager at SunEdison, I bring financing solutions to solar energy projects around the country. In 2013 I helped to build commercial and municipal renewable energy projects in California, Arizona, Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey. Other highlights of 2013 included a swim from Alcatraz to San Francisco with my dad, and getting engaged to Ryan Flannery '04E after a bike ride up Mount Tamalpais!"

Phil Sandick writes, "In 2013, I began wrapping up law school at Northwestern (J.D./LL.M. in international human rights) and helped my African Lookbook business partner launch and direct the Museum of African Design in Johannesburg. In May, my wife, daughter and I will move to Atlanta, where I'll clerk for a federal judge for two years."

Mike Camacho reports, "After spending 4½ years in Amsterdam, in November 2013 I relocated to Hong Kong to lead one of AlpInvest's business lines for the Asia-Pacific region. I've been with AlpInvest for seven years, taking up posts in New York, Amsterdam and now Hong Kong. I'm looking forward to meeting more Columbians in Hong Kong, so please reach out!"

Michael Sin advises, "Last year was a great one in real estate and 2014 looks to be even better. I have been having a wonderful time helping people find the apartment of their dreams or meeting their investment goals. If you have [New York City] buying or selling real estate needs, please feel free to reach out at msin@townrealestate.com. I love to help!"



David D. Chait '07, '13 Business and Amanda Mullens '13 Arch. were married on October 20 in Palm Beach, Fla. Left to right: Wayne Ting '06, Kwame Spearman '06, Christina Giaccone '07 Barnard, Subash Iyer '07, Jarod Were '07E, Helam Gebremariam '07, Zulekha Inayat '07E, Michael Glennon '15 Business, Tom Lightcap '07, Mohan Ramaswamy '04E, Martin LaSalle '07, the bride, Marc Tracy '07, Nishant Dixit '07, the groom, Andrew Russeth '07, Arvind Kadaba '07, Neda Navab '08, Jason Chekofsky '11 Business and James Williams '07.

PHOTO: MUNOZ PHOTOGRAPHY

Nick Barr writes, "I'm in the midst of a Ph.D. program in social work at USC, where my research interests include mindfulness-based interventions, emotion regulation and post-traumatic stress disorder, among other things. Other than that I live in Los Angeles with my anxious dog, Winston."

Natasha Shapiro Kovtun announces, "Last year brought me the greatest gift possible, my amazing daughter, Elizabeth Sydney Kovtun. She turned 1 on January 11."

JonAlf Dyrland-Weaver writes, "I believe this is my first time sending something to the Class Notes section (which is pretty sad, since I knew **Peter Kang** and my dad, John Weaver '49, is a class correspondent). Anyway, here's my update: I have been teaching computer science at Stuyvesant H.S. for six years, doing my best through the years to send good students Columbia's way. Last year I co-founded CSTUY (cstuy.org), a nonprofit focused on providing meaningful computer science education to students who would otherwise be unable to have it. In December, CSTUY was officially recognized as a 501(c)(3) organization, which will allow us to raise funds so that we can put together weekend and summer programs. On a personal note I got engaged to Jamie Thiessen in October and we are starting to plan our wedding, looking at November 2014."

Jennie (Cho) Magiera reports, "Last year was an exciting one! I am the digital learning coordinator for a network of 29 Chicago public schools. I also began my blog on Education Week, 'Teaching Toward Tomorrow,' was on a panel for NBC's *Education Nation* and was interviewed by Secretary of Education Arne Duncan on C-SPAN. I was most excited to meet President Barack Obama '83 at the White House to receive a White House Champion of Change award for being a Connected Educator! You can learn more at teachinglikeits2999.com."

Italome Ohikhuare writes, "I'm in my last semester of the M.F.A. film program at The University of Miami. I'm set to produce and star in a short film I wrote as my thesis, *The Mermaid*. It's about a young girl's loving but volatile relationship with her schizophrenic brother. It's based on my experience living with my brother, who suffers from the illness. My goal is to raise awareness about schizophrenia in general; so much more needs to be done. I'll let everyone know when the film is finished. I would love to share it with my Columbia community!"

Dave Fierman notes, "In 2011 I opened, along with R.J. Supa, a contemporary art gallery on the Lower East Side, Louis B. James (louisbjames.com), representing and exhibiting emerging and established local and international artists. Recently we opened a group show called 'Touch the Moon,' curated by Kristen Lorello '04 Barnard and featuring the work of Christian Dietkus '13 Arts. Our next show is a three-artist show; one of the artists is Nora Griffin '11 Arts. A small coterie of CC people attended the opening: **Paul Reyfman, Ling Wu Kong, Kavior Moon,** Coco Cioroiu '04, David Shapiro '01 and me.

Tanya Franklin shares, "I graduated from UCLA Law with specializations in public interest law and policy and critical race studies and am the inaugural David J. Epstein Education Law Public Service Fellow. I represent students in special education and discipline matters and advocate for school policies that promote restorative justice practices. I also blog about my work at mentalhealthadvocacyservices.wordpress.com."

06

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Hello, Class of 2006! I hope your 2014 is off to a great start. Here are some updates I received from our classmates around the globe in the final weeks of last year.

Montse Ferrer recently moved from Singapore to Hong Kong to be an associate in litigation and dispute resolution for Clifford Chance, a British international law firm. In early December, she met up with Columbia friends Alex Roberts '05E, Mike Camacho '05, Nishant Dixit '07 and Matias Vammalle '05 GS for a night of reminiscing, singing (*Roar, Lion, Roar*) and debating (JJ, Carman or the LLC?).

As reported by *The Post and Courier*, **Susannah R. Knox** has joined Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough in Charleston, S.C., as an associate attorney.

Teddy Diefenbach is a game designer at four-man game studio Heart Machine; he successfully raised funding for its game *Hyper Light Drifter* and secured publishing on all major consoles. Teddy is based in Los Angeles and is a founding member of the digital design collaborative workspace Glitch City.

Jeremy Kotin is thrilled to have become the creative director of Tandem Pictures in NYC last year and to continue his creative relationship with director Baz Luhrmann. He is especially proud of the tribute film he edited with Baz for *Vogue* editor-in-chief Anna Wintour this past winter.

Justin Ifill writes, "I had the pleasure of attending the wedding of **Dan Kessler** and Emily Fox last October in California. Many alumni were in attendance, including **Julia Nagle;** Jon Posen '07; Anna (Posner) Harb '06 Barnard and her husband, **Raja Harb; Ted Malawer;** and **Blair Bodine.** It was a beautiful wedding and I look forward to more excuses to head to the West Coast. I recently closed on an apartment in Queens and love being a homeowner! Looking forward to the many mini CC 2006 reunions we have throughout the year."

Sam Schon and his wife, Katie, welcomed a daughter, Clare, in October and have been reading to her ever since.

My congrats to all on their professional and personal successes and joys and my continued thanks to everyone who contributes to

these columns. I so enjoy hearing from each of you, even if it's just to say hello. Thanks for helping our class stay connected even as life takes us to far, distant and exciting places! Best wishes always.

07

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I hope this edition of Class Notes finds everyone well! Here are some exciting updates from our classmates.

Katerina Vorotova has turned her passion for travel into a business. In May 2013, she launched Try The World, the first online discovery platform for international products. Starting with curated gourmet subscription boxes from cities such as Paris, Tokyo and Rio, Kat hopes to bring the joy of discovering foreign cultures to hundreds of thousands of people across the globe. The company has received coverage on ABC News, The Huffington Post and NY1, among others. She is graduating with an M.B.A. from the Business School in May.

Rina Haverly writes, "A new bar will be opening in Bushwick, Brooklyn, at the hand of a CC '07 alum! The Bad Old Days will model itself on a vintage living room and will welcome both locals and far-flung individuals who want a soft place to land. Please join us in late spring for food and drink and a relaxing evening on our rooftop deck. Updates as to our opening schedule and construction progress will be posted to our Facebook page. We look forward to seeing some friendly faces!"

Yonatan Brafman and Ariela Rosenberg Brafman '09 welcome the birth of their daughter, Elleora Zahara. Yonatan writes, "She is already working her way through *The Iliad!* More chewing than reading at this point, though."

Alex Alvarez shares, "I recently wrote for a satirical, animated news program for Fusion, the new cable network from ABC/Univision. I'm moving to Los Angeles early this year in order to pursue more TV writing work with Fusion while trying to avoid driving for as long as humanly possible. Fortunately, there are plenty of amazing college friends — including my freshman year roommate from Carman 3, **Sasha Silver** —in L.A. to ease the transition. I'll miss New York every day but am excited for the new opportunities That Other Coast has to offer."

Josie Swindler Raymond '08J has exciting news: "My husband, Adam, an NYU grad who spent way too much time in Wien, and I welcomed our little girl, Pippy May, in November. Last summer we moved to Oakland so I could start career No. 3 — as an academic affairs director at the nonprofit College Track, which supports underresourced high school students on their way to college. Before that I taught middle school in Indianapolis with Teach For America and edited websites after graduating from the Journalism School."

Andrew Russeth, Marc Tracy and **Avi Zenilman** attended Kanye West's concert in Brooklyn on November 20. They sang along to every word of "New Slaves" and applauded when Kanye argued that Drake had been robbed of an MTV Video Music Award ("Best Male Video," which was given to Bruno Mars).

Ambalika Pinto Sudan hosted a wonderful, Bay Area CC reunion in September. Among the guests were **Casey Levine, Annie Honart,** Lucía Plumb-Reyes '06, **Lukas McGowan, Earnest Sweat, David Schor, Marco Zappacosta,** Stephen Wang '06E, **Alana Weiss, Jessica Isokawa** and **Diego Pontoriero '07E.**

After graduating with an M.B.A. last spring, **Kelsey Doorey** launched a website, Vow To Be Chic, where people can rent designer bridesmaid dresses. Check it out if you or a friend is planning a wedding!

Love is in the air for many classmates.

I'm particularly thrilled to share that I, **David Chait,** married Amanda Mullens '13 Arch. on October 20 in Palm Beach, Fla. Columbia College alumni in attendance included groomsmen **Andrew Russeth, Marc Tracy** and **Avi Zenilman,** as well as Wayne Ting '06, Kwame Spearman '06, **Subash Iyer, Helam Gebremariam, James Williams,** Neda Navab '08, **Arvind Kadaba, Nishant Dixit, Martin LaSalle** and **Tom Lightcap.** Also joining in the celebration were Mohan Ramaswamy '04E, Christina Giaccone '07 Barnard, **Zulekha Inayat '07E,** Jason Chekofsky '11 Business, **Jarod Were '07E,** Angela Serratore '13 Arch., Maureen West '14 TC, Michael Glennon '15 Business and Alex Ely '16L.

Nick Weiler writes, "On June 22, I married my longtime sweetheart, Meaghan Pugh, in Calistoga, Calif. I also defended my thesis last fall and am in the final throes of completing my dissertation for a Ph.D. in neuroscience. I traveled to Washington, D.C., in January for a short fellowship with the National Academies of Science and work at the Marian Koshland Science Museum, and will pursue opportunities in science journalism and education."

Giovanni Alvarez and **Christin Moné** were married on October 6 in Brooklyn at The Green Building. They fell in love at Columbia and were happy to celebrate their wedding with friends who have been there from the beginning.

08

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David Henry Gerson recently produced and acted in a feature film directed by a filmmaker he met at Sundance in 2011. It was shot this past summer on the beautiful island of Martha's Vineyard (eternalreturnfilm.com). He writes, "We are now editing and raising additional funds for post-production. Having a vision, and then watching over time as hard work brings it together and inspires others, has made this both incredibly challenging and the most gratifying of experiences!"

Zak Ringelstein founded UClass, the global lesson exchange, after teaching in U.S. public schools and international schools for four years. Just a year old, UClass connects teachers and students across 86 countries. Wendy Kopp, founder of Teach For America, sits on the UClass board. Last summer, Zak was invited to the White House to discuss education policy with President Barack Obama '83 and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. If you are a teacher, sign up for free at uclass.org.

Caroline McNamara did a 717-mile road trip through California at the end of August. She started at the wedding of **Meg Lundy** in Napa, then drove to the Mojave to visit Rebecca Kelly '09 and ended in Los Angeles with **Paul Soto** and **Sam Roberts.** Caroline writes, "It was a great adventure and I feel lucky for all my Columbia friends who made my trip possible!"

Rachel Belt recently finished her degree in humanitarian management and is working in the Haitian Prime Minister's Office in communications and aid effectiveness.

Calvin Sun is finishing up medical school and hopes he will be an emergency medicine doctor by April! He adds, "I'm also leading an expedition to Antarctica this December and then possibly going direct from the southernmost part of the world to Pakistan for a wedding."

Christine Han graduated from Boston Law last May and, after traveling in Asia and Europe, started a position with the U.S. Department of Justice based in San Juan. She writes, "I'll be here for two years and I'd love to catch up with any Columbians who visit the Caribbean."

Gabriella Barbosa '13L happily reports she is working at a public interest law firm called Public Counsel in Los Angeles.

Maxim Pinkovskiy earned a Ph.D. in economics from MIT and is an economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. He says that he's "looking forward to reconnecting with my fellow Columbians."

Betsy (Remes) Purves was married in Suffolk, England, on August 24; she and her husband were delighted to be joined at the wedding by **Camilla Rockefeller, Emily Low, Taylor Harwin** and Hannah Girer-Rosencrantz '08 Barnard. Betsy works in arts fundraising in Washington, D.C., and her husband will move from London to join her in the United States early this year.

Claire Blatz earned a master's in professional French-English translation from the ITI-RI translation school of the University of Strasbourg (France), and is a professional translator in Strasbourg.

In the wake of the Super Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda that struck the Philippines in early November, **Mark Clemente** felt he needed to do something that could help. He came up with the idea of having a charity tennis event and exhibition match that would support the Haiyan victims. After sharing the idea with some of his Singapore friends, and through the great support of the Columbia University Club of Singapore, "Hit for Haiyan" was put into motion.

A former captain of the men's varsity tennis team, Mark's goal for the event was not only to share his love of tennis but also to bring the Singapore and tennis communities together for a common cause. As this project began to take shape, Mark realized something remarkable. He explains, "The immense support, kindness and generosity that emerged among so many people from different backgrounds joining together to help support the Philippines [was incredible]. From the planning stages to the organizing to coordinating donors and volunteers, it was a proud moment to witness such dedication and resolve by everyone involved in making this event a true success.

The event included speakers including the vice-chairman of Gawad Kalinga, Margo Encarnacion, and Jo-e Villagarcia, founder of #givingisscocial. Each speaker shared his or her insight on how Typhoon Haiyan affected so many lives in the Philippines and how the community could help in the rebuilding process.

In the end, Mark writes, "The Hit for Haiyan charity tennis event, held at the prestigious Hollandse



Emory Dabney '10 married Jay Dolan on June 8 in Richmond, Va. Front row, left to right: Lauren Ko '10, Jennifer Velloza '10, Becky Gallt '10, Abby Stone '10, Sari Ancel '10E, the bride and the groom; and back row, left to right: Colin Cameron '09, Ari Zolin '10, Elijah de la Campa '10, Eric Sadur '10, Andrew Balmer '10, Richard Brown '10, Daniel Spiro '10, Alex Covino '10, Rick Fudge '10, Ruth Singer, Marc Rios '10, Alyssa Montalvo, Niket Pandey '10 and Julia Reingold '10 Barnard.
PHOTO: EAGLE EYE PHOTOGRAPHY

Club, was indeed a great success. Attracting more than 150 kids and adults, the event raised more than $15,000 in donations. One hundred percent of the proceeds have been donated to GK1 World (Singapore), the official representative of Gawad Kalinga Philippines, to support the rebuilding of the 11.3 million lives affected by Typhoon Haiyan. Through the generous support of SACAC and the Hollandse Club, the tennis fundraiser offered fun tennis games, raffle prizes and a chance for spectators to watch Singapore's top-ranked tennis players compete in a series of exhibition matches."

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1

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09

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If you enjoy reading these Class Notes to learn what your classmates have been doing the past few years, then surely you will enjoy our first Columbia Alumni Reunion Weekend! Mark your calendars: the Class of 2009 will celebrate its five-year reunion Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1, with events planned for on campus and throughout NYC. It's a not-to-be-missed opportunity to see your friends and catch up on all the adventures you've had since graduation. And let's be honest, we all miss Morningside Heights, from the Low Steps to our favorite spots on Broadway and Amsterdam. For more information and to register, go to reunion.college.columbia.edu. You can also check out the reunion preview in "Around the Quads."

Stephanie Russell-Kraft recently married Zachary Henson in Brooklyn, surrounded by many dear friends from Columbia including maid of honor **Hyun Young Kim**. Stephanie spent the last two years earning a master's in Berlin and is excited to be back in New York, where she is a reporter for the legal news site Law360.

Camille Williams is moving to Buenos Aires in March on a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship for nine months. Afterward she will spend a couple of months traveling around South America. Sadly, she will miss our five-year reunion but she welcomes our classmates to let her know if they are in Buenos Aires.

Akash Gupta is taking a year off from medical school at Yale to do an epidemiology fellowship at the STD Prevention Division of the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta. He finds that his new position creates entertaining conversations with his conservative Indian relatives. He is also enjoying some newfound free time in which he has been playing capoeira, hiding and losing at trivia night.

Maya Koenig-Dzialowski is at P&S and started her clinical rotations in January. Last summer, she conducted a needs assessment in Kampala, Uganda, for a newly opened adolescent health clinic at Mulago Hospital. She interviewed 120 adolescents using a questionnaire that she developed around medical, psychological, reproductive health and logistical needs. She is working with two pediatricians at school on this project and they have presented preliminary findings at conferences in New York and Uganda. She is in the process of refining her results for publication.

After finishing her M.B.A. last spring at Yale, **Tiffany Dockery** moved to Seattle to work for Amazon as a senior product manager. By day, she works on a classified product for Amazon (no, not the drones) and by night and on weekends, she is falling in love with the culinary delights of Seattle and enjoying the natural beauty of the Pacific Northwest. She also completed her first half-marathon in November in Philadelphia and is looking forward to training for her first full marathon this spring.

Jenny Lam was recently in Miami, where she attended Art Basel and what seemed like a million parallel fairs. She tried her best not to get into too much trouble. She is now back in Chicago. The Class of 2009 can follow her adventures at her blog, artistsonthelam.blogspot.com, or on twitter, twitter.com/thejennylam.

10

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The Class of 2010 has many great updates to share. I'll dive right in:

Morgan Parker's first book of poetry, *Other People's Comfort Keeps Me Up At Night*, was selected by poet Eileen Myles for the 2013 Gatewood Prize. Morgan earned an M.F.A. in poetry from NYU in 2012 and her work has been featured or is forthcoming in numerous publications, including *Tin House, Painted Bride Quarterly* and the anthology *Why I Am Not A Painter*. In 2013, she was a finalist for The Poetry Project's Emerge-Surface-Be Fellowship. A Cave Canem fellow, Morgan lives with her dog, Braeburn, in Brooklyn, where she is education director at the Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts. See recent publications and upcoming reading dates at morgan-parker.com.

Jordan Hirsch writes, "A few items of note! I'm getting married on June 22 to Samara Jaffe '13 Barnard, and I hope many friends from Columbia and Barnard will be in attendance. I'm in my second

year at Yale Law and have the privilege of visiting alma mater every so often as a fellow at the Columbia Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies."

Lauren "Casey" Hayes-Deats writes, "I am still adjusting to the terms 'husband' and 'wife' after marrying Caleb Hayes-Deats '11L on August 24. It was a beautiful, perfect day on a farm in West Virginia, and lots of Columbians were in attendance. Alice Sturm '10 was a bridesmaid and Jacob Lasser '12 sang during the ceremony. After the wedding, Caleb and I honeymooned in France, where I discovered that there is a limit to the number of croissants that I can consume.

"[As I write,] having returned to New York, I am now working to produce the inaugural production of The Cake Shop Theater Company, which I co-founded with Katie Lupica '11. Our New York premiere of Ferdinand Bruckner's *Pains of Youth* in a new version by Martin Crimp was scheduled to open in February."

Sue Yang reports, "I am at Harvard Business School with Katie Omstead '10, Edward Kim '10 and Otto Magdanz '10!"

Lauren Patrick is a second-year medical student at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. Last summer she won a grant sponsored by the American Society of Hematology to conduct research and recently presented her findings in a presentation and poster session at the national conference in New Orleans.

GabrielIa RipolI writes, "I graduated from NYU Law last May, passed the Florida bar and work in a boutique general practice law firm, Arrufat Gracia, in Times Square. [As I write I am] preparing to take the New York Bar in February. Shana Knizhnik '10 and I were in the *NYU Law Revue* show this past spring."

Anne Reilly writes, "I graduated from Fordham Law in May 2013 and am a federal law clerk for the Hon. William J. Zloch in the Southern District of Florida."

Jill Larson became engaged to David Byeff on November 29. Jill is the director of special projects and strategy at Sakar International, a consumer electronics manufacturer, and David is an attorney at Weil, Gotshal & Manges. They are planning a summer 2014 wedding.

Finally, **Chris Yim** shares his quarterly musings: "Is there anyone out there with some good advice about how to convince a girlfriend who lives in New York to make her way out west to San Francisco? I love New York and all, don't get me wrong, but I've had a sip of the California Kool-Aid and am here for the time being. I'll give you some pros and cons.

"Pros: 1. It's cheaper to live here. You can spend a lot of money on rent but you can also snag some deals. You just have to get really good at Craigslist. 2. You live more healthfully because the work-life balance is better and because the bars aren't open until 4 a.m. You can wake up on Sunday and have a full day. 3. California has so much to offer — mountain ranges, beaches, a coastal highway and fresh herbs.

"Cons: 1. Instead of a bro finance culture, you have a bro start-up scene. 2. The public transportation kind of stinks. A car is nice if you can have easy access to parking. 3. People are more attractive in New York, in case you're shallow like that.

"In other news, there have been some Columbia moments these past few months. We found a random roommate on Craigslist who was CC (what up, Maciej Paluch '00?!), forming an intergenerational apartment. I also have recently joined a CU 2010 book club, opening up many intellectual pores and stimulating conversation on transcendent levels. We're reenacting Lit Hum with wine and food, mixed in with juicy Columbia gossip and talk of how great it is to be an Ivy League graduate. Deep stuff.

"I had the honor of being present at the engagement of Mr. Kanye West and Miss Kim Kardashian at AT&T Park in the fall. Getting into the small get-together through a connection in tech, I had the chance to raise a glass to the happy couple and say a brief toast in their honor about the importance of commitment, dedication and unconditional love.

"My son, Jackson Carman (named after the dorm), is starting to walk, and it's a miracle witnessing him via FaceTime every day. Love is kind, love is patient."

"I close my update with this: Please follow me on instagram@fatboyyim."

Tiffany Jung followed up Chris' note by saying, "I recently joined Chris Yim's book club, which has been life-changing. We read novels that Chris has written."

Ting Ting Guo writes, "After spending the past 1½ years as an expat in China, I'm excited to share that I'll be back on campus in August to start at the Business School (with a few CC '10 and CC '11 classmates!). Leading up to school, I've chosen to leave my job — I previously worked at a venture capital fund — to volunteer with an NGO dedicated to providing protection, personal well-being, economic empowerment and reintegration services to women and children who have been affected by human rights abuse. I will volunteer in Hanoi for 12 weeks. I'm always happy to meet up fellow alums: tg2251@caa.columbia.edu."

Lauren Patrick '10 is a second-year medical student at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry.

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Nuriel Moghavem and **Sean Udell**
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We are thrilled to report that the 2011 Class Notes column has been resuscitated with your new, bicoastal class correspondents!

Nuriel Moghavem and **Sean Udell** are teaming up to deliver the most up-to-date alumni information that a quarterly magazine could offer. Starting today, you can send your news to Nuriel (nurielm@gmail.com) and/or Sean (sean.udell@gmail.com), or by using *CCT*'s webform (college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note), and we'll make sure that it makes it into the hands of 2011 alumni worldwide.

Since graduation, Sean and Nuriel have been trying to keep themselves busy.

In June 2011, Sean became part of the Teach For America 2011 Colorado Corps, where he was a special education teacher in a Denver middle school. During that time, Sean's students achieved the second-highest improvement in standardized test scores of all special education students in the city. While teaching, Sean earned a master's in curriculum and instruction from Colorado. After finishing the corps in May 2013, he joined the founding administrative team for Academy 360, a health-and-wellness elementary school in Denver's Far Northeast community. As the student services coordinator, he supports teachers and service providers, manages education programs for students with special needs, carries out the school discipline process and analyzes academic and behavioral data. In June, Sean will move to Philadelphia to start a one-year, post-baccalaureate pre-medical program at Bryn Mawr as he pursues a career as a physician.

Nuriel is back home in California in his second year of an M.D./M.P.P. program at Stanford. He spends most of his time somewhat successfully trying not to fail out, and his research interests are currently in surgical outcomes and in patient-physician (or surrogate-physician) communication. He is a voting member of both the American Medical Association and California Medical Association Houses of Delegates. Two years ago, Nuriel co-founded The Rap Insider — the authoritative source for questionably reliable entertainment news — with **Jonathan Tanners, Dhruv Vasishtha** and **Rajib Mitra '11E,** and TRI continues to be his main distraction outside of school. He is also working on launching The Prognosis, a healthcare issues blog featuring the voices of young leaders, with Jason Han '12.

With all of that self-aggrandizement out of the way, we're ready to hear about the cool things that you are doing! Send your updates our way via email, text, Facebook, carrier pigeon, *et cetera, et cetera*! We look forward to hearing from you soon.

The notes below were received by *CCT* before Nuriel and Sean helmed the column:

Zila Acosta writes, "This past Christmas break, **Brian Grimes** and I got engaged. We met in Lit Hum and he proposed on College Walk among the lights."

News also has reached *CCT* of several CC '11 weddings.



Nicole Catá '11 and Benjamin Theodore were married on June 22 in Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y. Left to right: Hilary Baboukis '11; George Escandon '11; Sara Weaver '12 Barnard; Stephanie Tarras '10 Barnard; Laura Benton '11 Barnard; Ivy Fortmeyer '11; James Caldarise '13; Camille Hutt '11; Amanda Wild '11E; Jon Jager '11 GS, '11 JTS; Sarah Sechan '11 GS, '11 JTS; Daniel Miranda '10E; Nancy Huemer '10 Barnard; Louise Beck; Paul Lerner; Brian Wong '11E; Jose Delgado '12; Melissa Caffrey '11; Kristin Berry '11; Adina Levin '11; Janine Balekdjian '13; Neeraj Borle '11; Rebecca Greenstein '10 Barnard and Devon Grandy.
PHOTO: ALAN WEISS

Nicole Catá married her high school sweetheart, Ben Theodore, on June 22 at the River View in Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y. The Jewish ceremony took place at sunset in a setting overlooking the Hudson River and the Palisades. The couple live in Washington, D.C., where Nicole is a joint degree candidate at The George Washington University Law School and the Elliott School of International Affairs. She is scheduled to graduate with her J.D. and M.A. in May 2015. She is a legal fellow for the International Human Rights Clinic at the Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics and this June will be a summer law clerk in the New York office of Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, an immigration law firm. Ben works on teacher retention and recognition at DC Public Schools.

Michal Cohen shared news of the wedding of **Oren Benzaquen** and Emily Berkower '12 Barnard, which took place in "a beautiful ceremony in New York on January 26. Their wedding celebration was a wonderful opportunity for friends from Columbia to reconnect and reminisce about their years on campus. In attendance were many College alumni, including **Michal Cohen, Gilad Bendheim, Jordan Katz, Daniel Swartz, Miriam Wiseman,** Jonathan Berliner '09, Jonathan Feld '10, Eric Bressman '10, Jacob Hartman '10, Boaz Cohen '10, Ariel Schaap '12, Michael Abramson '13, Tzipora Quint '13, Daniel Boiarsky '13 and many others.

"The couple had been dating since college and everyone had a blast seeing them tie the knot."

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I continue to be amazed by the updates I receive from our classmates.

Patrick Blute received rave reviews on BuzzFeed and in *Time* and *Vanity Fair* for his production, *SPEARS: The Gospel According to Britney,* which showed at the Snapple Theater in midtown Manhattan on November 7.

Michael W. Hannon writes, "Taking our Columbia motto to heart (*In lumine Tuo videbimus lumen*), this summer I'll be entering a Catholic monastery in the California desert (stmichaelsabbey.com). I could not be more grateful to my Columbia professors and classmates for my time in Morningside Heights and for the — perhaps largely unintentional — preparation you provided for religious life. I'll be praying for you all, and for the entire school community. Thank you and God bless you always. Roar, lion, roar!"

Paul Hsiao, Jennifer Ong, Diane Wang and **Michael Chan '12E** say farewell and good luck to **Chris Cheung** as he shifts within Unilever to its Shanghai division.

Paul thanks **Emily Ahn** for hosting him for Thanksgiving in Massachusetts. He was looking forward to spending the New Year in Hong Kong with Columbia and Hong Kong Students and Scholars Society alumni, including **Andrea Mui** and **Justin Cheung '12E.**

Emily Kwong dropped a note from Fairfield, N.Y.: "Since Columbia, I've continued to fall head over heels for radio. After graduating I taught youth media in India and then returned to the United States to study documentary [making] in Maine. I am splitting my time between two radio internships — with StoryCorps and Radio Rookies — making pennies and living with my parents (this is the life of a wannabe producer, I'm told)."

Yin Yin Lu is at Oxford pursuing a master's in English language. She writes, "My dissertation will be on one of the most fascinating linguistic phenomena in the 21st century: the hashtag. But this is just the beginning; my objective is to write a book on the subject! Outside of my studies, I've been participating in an array of extracurricular activities, including chapel choir, a hand press printing workshop, a web coding course, an innovation and entrepreneurship workshop, 'Building a Business' lectures at the business school and a women's leadership development program. I am still involved with 10 Speed Labs as a part-time contractor. It's a bit too much, really, but this is the eclectic and relentless lifestyle that I am used to!"

Aditya Mukerjee, who began pursuing a master's in computer science with the Cornell NYC Tech program this past fall, is taking a leave of absence in the spring semester to participate in the Blueprint Health accelerator for Boardrounds, a startup he cofounded with **Benjamin Jack '07E.** Aditya shares, "Boardrounds reduces emergency room readmissions by improving communication among inpatient and outpatient physicians and offering dynamic incentives for scheduling timely post-discharge follow-up care. Benji and I are looking forward to building Boardrounds this spring!"

Congratulations are in order for **Amanda Schiff** '14 TC and Scott Bromberg, who were married on June 30 in Roslyn, N.Y. A number of Columbians attended the beautiful ceremony.

Tarini Shrikhande sent an up-

date from Toronto: "Not unlike the blockbuster hit *The Hangover*, Tarini Shrikhande is unsure how she came to be living in Mayor Rob Ford's backyard. Yes, alums, it's true. This unwilling expat is currently living the dream: advertising to Canucks. What she misses desperately about New York (other than good ramen and friends — yes, in that order) are her fellow Columbians. Where are all you snow-loving, poutine-eating, hockey-playing CC and SEAS people? Get at me. I'll buy the first round of drinks."

Derek Turner continues to enjoy life in Michigan. He writes, "Dispatch from Detroit: As a Venture For America fellow, along with the unstoppable **Todd Nelson,** I'm continuing my contribution to the quest to get the city back on its feet. But with only a few months to go in the fellowship, life is starting to take on the exciting yet intimidating openness that we all felt as graduation approached. While the next step is unclear, I have learned a lot in the time I've been here.

"This city is a special place. Take a trip here and I'll introduce you to some of the people who are doing their part to overcome a bankruptcy, to the startups trying to fuel economic growth and to the community organizations that take on responsibilities that are usually left to municipal authorities.

"Detroit has something for everyone. For libertarians: public sector failure. For conservatives: corrupt unions. For liberals: self-interested corporations. For progressives: both white flight and gentrification. Come one, come all!

"Roar, lion, roar — wherever you may be. Miss you, Class of 2012."

Miyako Yerick will graduate in May with a master's in global policy studies from the University of Texas. She also made the 2013 U.S. national Taekwondo team and represented the United States in the 8th World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships in Bali in November. She and her team made it to the finals and finished eighth in the world.

So impressive, 2012. Happy spring and keep in touch!

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The start of spring brings back memories of sunny days on South Lawn and the joys of second-semester senioritis. It has been almost a year since graduation and I hope this note finds you deep in the throes of new interests and adventures. Our class has taken full advantage of its Columbia education, with many members achieving great things around the globe. Here are some of their updates:

James Caldarise wrapped up his first semester in Austria, where he has been teaching English as a language assistant at a local school. Living in a small, rural town called Tyrol, he has found enjoyment working with local teenagers, both in and out of the classroom, on developing their conversational English skills. In his free time, James also has been working on his own cultural education, focusing on learning the local Tyrollean dialect. He has taken to his environment, hiking in the Alps and experiencing all that the alpine culture has to offer. He made a short visit home to the United States for the holidays before returning to Austria for a second semester.

Katie Bentivoglio also has been involved in education overseas. Last August she moved to Cairo, Egypt, to work at the American University in Cairo with its president, Lisa Anderson '76 SIPA, '81 GSAS. During college, Katie studied modern standard Arabic for four years, including three summers studying in Tunisia and Morocco through the Department of State's Critical Language Scholarship. Katie first traveled to Egypt during summer 2012, when she interned at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo and witnessed Egypt's historic presidential elections. She subsequently parlayed her passion for Egyptian politics into a senior thesis on the sharia and legislative authority in the 2012 Egyptian constitution. Katie could not be happier to be back in Egypt, she says, this time on the educational side working with a Columbia graduate. In her spare time, she enjoys brushing up on her knowledge of the Egyptian dialect by wandering the streets of the city.

Continuing with the international trend, **Madhavan Somanathan** has moved to France to pursue the study of classical guitar. He is studying the instrument under Professor Judicael Perroy at the Conservatoire d'Aubervilliers. With this education he plans to work toward a performance career.

Tyler Simpson also has had the opportunity to travel internationally, through her job as an associate at the NBA. Last July, Tyler began working in a rotational program that has her moving from department to department within league headquarters, learning about different aspects of the business. She has worked in the player development department and human resources, and in a position as the ambassador at the 2013 NBA Global Games, during which she traveled to Manila and Taipei. There, she met coaches and team executives from the Indiana Pacers and the Houston Rockets. In January, Tyler transitioned to the global merchandising group.

Miyako Yerick '12 made the 2013 U.S. national Taekwondo team and represented the United States in the 8th World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships in Bali in November.

Tyler has been fostering her passion for basketball outside of her career as well, as a volunteer for the youth basketball program New Heights in Harlem. She helps coach basketball teams for girls in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades.

In addition to having a full-time job as an IT research analyst in New York, **Takeshi Kaji** volunteers as a social media coordinator for the Icelandic organization Arctic Circle. This past October he took a weekend off to attend its annual assembly in Reykjavik, Iceland, where he live-tweeted and updated the organization's Facebook page during the event. He observed conversations and debates among major figures in Arctic public policy, business and science. He also met Kuupik Kleist, the former prime minister of Greenland, and Olafur Ragnar Grimsson, the president of Iceland, as well as Google's Eric Schmidt, during a panel discussion. Although he only spent 50 hours in Reykjavik, Takeshi looks forward to attending the conference next year and hopes that next time he will be able to accept his invitation to dinner at Bessataoir, the residence of the Icelandic president.

Devyn Tyler played the role of Margaret in the final scene of Steve McQueen's newest film, *12 Years a Slave*. The film is sparking many conversations about race in the United States, and Devyn says she is excited to have had the opportunity to bring arts and academics together in discussion. She auditioned for this role during her time at Columbia. Of the films that she has been in, she says this is her favorite because it engaged her "not only as an artist but also as a scholar."

Devyn has been acting professionally in New Orleans since childhood but took a break while at Columbia so that she could focus on academics. She was a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow with research interests in the placement of New Orleans in the Francophone diaspora and the city's free people of color. Her goal is to complete a Ph.D. in French and Francophone studies. In the near future, Devyn plans to act professionally again and hopes to be involved in more projects that allow her to interact with history and art. Her research at Columbia supplements her work as an actress, and she says she's excited to see the possibilities for her career now that she has come to this realization. [Editor's note: See "Senior Snapshots" in the Summer 2013 issue.]

Constance Boozer is also indulging her academic passions. She recently moved to Hyde Park and began a two-year program at Chicago, where she will pursue a master's in public policy with a focus on political institutions and urban policy. The material has been manageable for her so far, and she says her biggest challenge is surviving the winter in the Midwest!

Constance continues, "Another *CPR* has entered my life. This time it's not the *Columbia Political Review* but rather the *Chicago Policy Review*, where I am the senior editor on urban affairs. If I'm not in the computer lab trying to figure out why my STATA code doesn't work, I'm either at an Institute of Politics event or uptown exploring Chicago."

Samantha Warren sent an exciting update about her rowing life. She writes, "After graduation I moved to Princeton, N.J., and began training for the World Rowing Under 23 Championships, which were held in Linz, Austria, last summer. After racing and traveling around Europe for a couple of weeks I flew home and got a call from the Olym-



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pic rowing coach inviting me to train at the Elite Rowing Center in Princeton. After a couple of months of a trial period in the fall and my second-place finish in the single at the East Coast speed orders in November, I was invited to stay full-time. This training center is home to Olympians, Olympic medalists and world record holders. As there are only about 25 women training at the center, it is a huge honor to be considered, let alone invited, to be here. The level of excellence of these women is both inspiring and intimidating; I am awestruck on a daily basis by the quality of the athletes. Some women have been to two and even three Olympics, and just this past summer the women's eight broke the world record. It's exciting to be a part of all this.

"With two or three practices a day, this training is a full-time job. My daily practices combine on-the-water training, weight lifting and cross-training on an erg, some sessions lasting up to about 100 minutes of work. The training is the hardest I have ever done and leaves me at a level of exhaustion I didn't think was possible. While the training is grueling it is easier because of my remarkable teammates. The women at the center are from schools all over the country and from all different backgrounds yet we train every day as one team with one goal — to win gold medals at the Olympics.

"At Columbia I rowed in the varsity eight for four years and was a two-time captain. I am so grateful to be part of the Columbia athletics family and I hope to one day represent the United States and Columbia at the Olympics. Go Lions!"

For a final update, I congratulate **Allison Lieblein '13E** and **Will Kender** on their recent marriage! Allison and Will met at Columbia and were married on October 12 in Dana Point, Calif. More than 20 Columbia grads attended the wedding.

Answers to Varsity Show Quiz on inside back cover

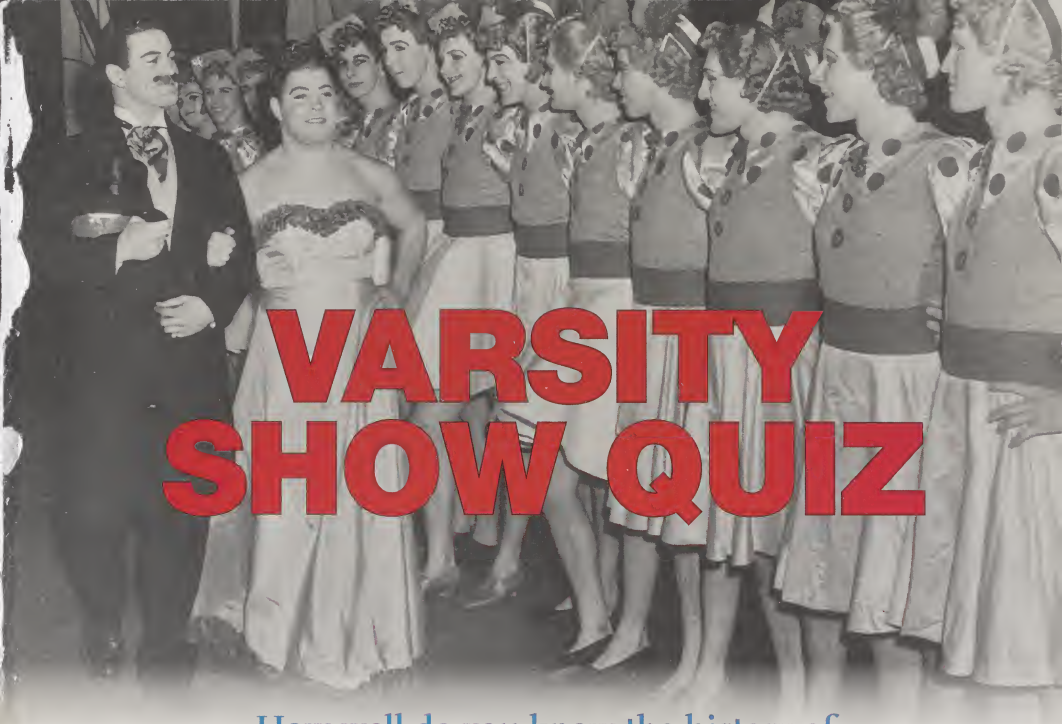
1. *Joan of Arc*
2. Terrence McNally '60 (sidelight: music and lyrics for that VShow were by Ed Kleban '59, Tony-winning lyricist of *A Chorus Line*)
3. Herman Mankiewicz (Class of 1917)
4. Dick Hyman '48
5. The pony ballet
6. Jacques Barzun '27, '32 GSAS
7. Richard Rodgers '23, Lorenz Hart (Class of 1918J) and Oscar Hammerstein II (Class of 1916)
8. False. For many years the Varsity Show was staged in midtown, in theaters and hotels including the Waldorf=Astoria.
9. Sid Luckman '39
10. I.A.L. Diamond '41 wrote four Varsity Shows, 1938–41.

Bonus: Women first appeared in the Varsity Show in 1936 but adverse audience reaction led the show to return to male-only status until 1956, when women were reintroduced to the cast.

Last Look



The cast of the 120th Varsity Show hams it up during a promotional photo shoot.
PHOTO: CHAR SMULLYAN



VARSITY SHOW QUIZ

How well do you know the history of one of Columbia's great traditions?

1. What was the name of the first Varsity Show, which was staged in 1894?
2. This four-time Tony winner wrote 1960's *A Little Bit Different*. Name him.
3. The writer of 1916's *The Peace Pirates* collaborated with Orson Welles on the Oscar-winning screenplay for *Citizen Kane*. Name him.
4. *Dead to Rights*, performed in 1947, was composed by what noted jazz pianist?
5. When the College was all-male, one of the regular features of the Varsity Show was a chorus line of students in women's outfits and makeup. What was this VShow staple called?
6. The writer of 1928's *Zuleika* achieved fame as an educator and author. Name him.
7. Three Broadway legends collaborated on 1920's *Fly With Me*. Name them.
8. True or false: The Varsity Show always has been staged on the Columbia campus.
9. What Hall of Fame quarterback, wearing suit in photo above and escorting former Columbia football captain John Bateman '37, '38 GSAS, appeared in 1939's *Fair Enough*?
10. Only one man has written four consecutive Varsity Shows by himself. He later teamed with Billy Wilder to pen screenplays for classics such as *Some Like It Hot*, *Fortune Cookie*, *Irma la Deuce* and *The Apartment*. Name him.

Bonus: When did women first appear in the Varsity Show?

Answers on page 15.

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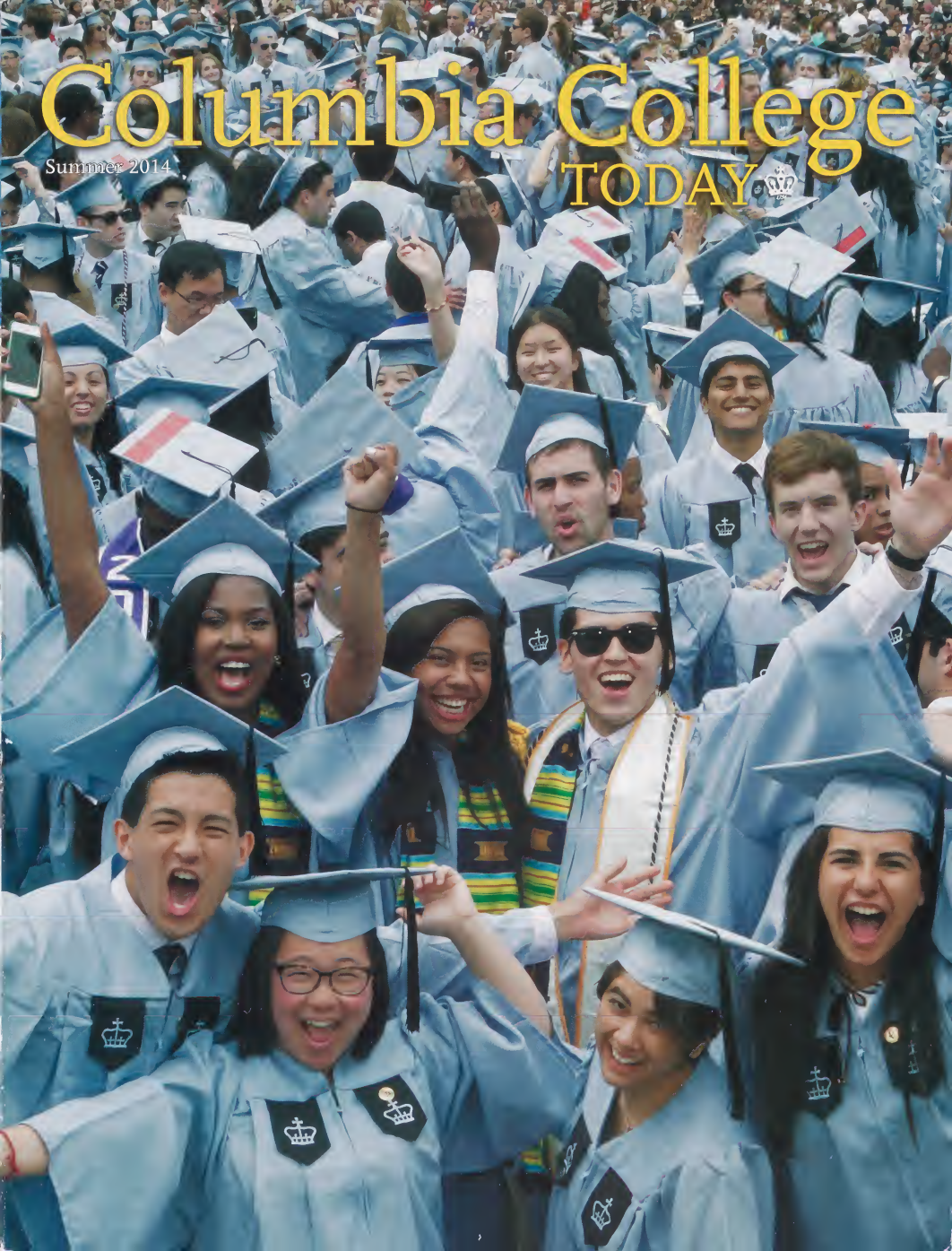
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Walk through the Broadway Gates once more at Alumni Reunion Weekend 2014, May 29–June 1. If your class year ends in 4 or 9, please join us back on campus. reunion.college.columbia.edu.

Columbia College TODAY

Summer 2014

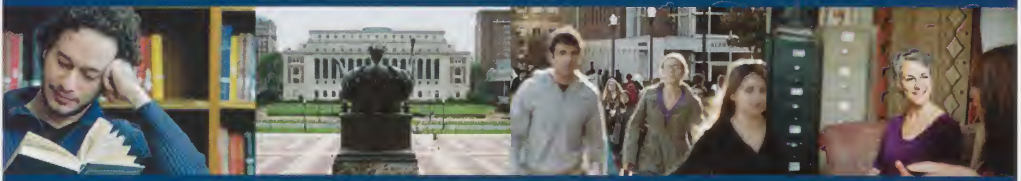


"I knew that Columbia would be life-changing, that it would introduce me to inspiring people and give me the opportunity to explore what is, in my opinion, the greatest city in the world. What I wasn't expecting was for Columbia to become my home."

Sophia Golec '15



Thank You!



"My experience at Columbia College has taught me to challenge my existing notions and perceptions. I have learned the value of personal challenges and the demerits of comparisons with others. Everyone's journey is unique. Columbia taught me to push myself and discover my limits."

Sundas Amer '15



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COLUMBIA COLLEGE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY in the CITY of NEW YORK

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COVER: CHAR SMULLYAN; BACK COVER: SCOTT RUDD/SCOTTRUDDEVENTS.COM



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Watch Nikkie Zanevsky '07 doing parkour

Thank you to ARC chairs and members

View the College's 2013–14 memorable moments

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A Plan for Lifelong Engagement

In May, 1,026 Columbia College students marched from Butler Library toward the Sundial in their Class Day ceremony to celebrate their accomplishments, commemorate their graduation and join our community of almost 48,000 alumni. Two weeks later, nearly 1,500 Columbia College alumni and more than 700 guests returned to Morningside Heights for Alumni Reunion Weekend and Dean's Day to celebrate on Low Plaza, take Mini-Core Courses and catch up with friends.

As I've written here, life as a Columbia College student is a continuum — you start as a "future student," spend four years as a "current student" and graduate to a "former student," a category in which you will typically spend more than 60 years. The events of each spring represent this, as current students transition to former students and former students reconnect with their Columbia College experience. But I don't want that to happen only at reunion. My goal as dean is to keep you connected and engaged in the life of the College throughout your personal and professional lives.

To figure out how best to engage you, the alumni of Columbia College, I appointed a College Alumni Relations Task Force last year. The 13-member committee, which included members of the University Board of Trustees, Columbia College Board of Visitors, Columbia College Alumni Association Executive Board and Columbia College Young Alumni, convened focus groups, benchmarked with other institutions and created a five-year strategic plan for Columbia College Alumni Relations. The committee believes this plan will enhance your Columbia experience, help you remain involved in the life of the College and connect you with other Columbians — both students and fellow alumni.



PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

The plan that the committee presented to me earlier this academic year has four pillars:

- Intellectual Experience: To provide content-rich, unique, intellectual experiences, ranging from Mini-Core Courses to virtual programming;
- Power Network: To help you build personal and professional connections through the energy and accomplishments of our community, including career programming, mentoring and other tools;
- Pride and Recognition: To build upon the traditions that connected you to the College and to your peers, and to recognize and celebrate your accomplishments as alumni; and
- Columbia Service: To inspire you to get involved with students, other alumni and the College, and to give your time and talents, while having meaningful volunteer and leadership experiences.

Our Alumni Relations team did a lot this academic year to carry out this plan — expanding our staff, strengthening our relationships across campus and enhancing our outreach efforts. I hope that you have begun to notice the changes. You are already connecting to the College by reading this issue of *Columbia College Today*. But I encourage you to get more involved with the Columbia College Alumni Association, to sign up to interview future students through the Alumni Representative Committee or do mock interviews for the Center for Career Education, to attend alumni events in your region and to come back to campus for the Alumni Parade of Classes at Class Day and for the Alumni Procession at Convocation, or for reunion and Dean's Day each spring.

This is a plan for you, so if you have questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out to ccalumni@columbia.edu.

Have a great summer!





Valentini shares a laugh with Wanda Holland Greene '89, '92 TC at the 1989 dinner on the Saturday of Alumni Reunion Weekend.
PHOTO: SCOTT RUDD/SCOTTRUDDEVENTS.COM

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Letters to the Editor

The Varsity Show

What a great [Spring 2014] issue! Of course, being a member of the Pony Ballet, I'm prejudiced. I don't remember the theme of the Varsity Show that year, as we of the Pony Ballet figured it was all about us and not the rest of the show.

We had a lot of fun. I remember that to jazz up one of our numbers, Claire Schiel '49 Barnard (our dance teacher and choreographer) suggested I sashay out during our Hawaiian number and roll my belly. I did, and it brought the house down (or so it seemed to me). In any case, thanks again for bringing back those fun times.

Raymond Annino '50
North Smithfield, R.I.

We enjoyed the piece on the Varsity Show in the Spring 2014 issue, remembering the days of the all-male productions. And the so-called dance instructor (she was not our dance instructor — Claire Schiel '49 Barnard was) in the picture on page 27 was none other than Broadway star Nanette Fabray, uptown for the day to pose for publicity photos.

We also recalled that in the late '40s, the Columbia Players produced other shows, with Barnard women in major and supporting roles. In the early fall, under the direction of Preston Munter '46, '49 P&S, we did Shakespeare (*Romeo and Juliet*, *Coriolanus*) in McMillan; Thornton Wilder's *The Skin of Our Teeth*; and an original verse drama, *The Edge of Perfect*, by Ferdinand Monjo '46, based on the legend of Eloise and Abelard, in Brander Matthews. Early in the spring semester we performed T.S. Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral* in St. Paul's Chapel for three years running. And one winter we performed Euripides' *Iphigenia in Aulis* in the Low Rotunda. Many of those shows starred Dolph Sweet '48 and Sorrell Booke '49, both of whom went on to be featured actors in movies and TV and on Broadway.

Dr. Marvin M. Lipman '49, '54 P&S
(Pony Ballet 1948, 1949)
Naomi Loeb Lipman '51 Barnard
(Eloise, Iphigenia, among others)
New York City

As a Varsity Show performer and composer (*The Shape of Things*, *The Sky's the Limit*, *When in Rome*, *Not Fit to Print*), I was pleased to see them featured in the Spring 2014 issue. I wish to fill in some omissions in the articles.

First, missing from the list of Varsity Show participants who went on to significant professional achievements in show business are:

William Goldenberg '57: Billy continues to have a great career in Hollywood and on Broadway and TV. His credits include two Emmys (22 nominations); composing the music for the Broadway musical *Ballroom*, innumerable films and TV theme songs; and acting as music director and appearing as accompanist for Nichols and May; Kukla, Fran and Ollie; Barbra Streisand; Liza Minnelli; and Bea Arthur, among others.

Richard Chodosh '49 and Barry Alan Grael '52: Dick wrote the music and Barry the book and lyrics to the 1963 Off-Broadway show *The Streets of New York*, which was the subject of a laudatory article in *Time*. They also wrote the show *Berlin Is Mine*.

Second, regarding women in the Varsity Show, from inception men played both male and female roles. Then, in 1936, the all-male cast concept was breached with the addition of women. The story was that it caused a riot at the Astor Hotel, where the show was being presented, and the experiment was halted the following year. In 1956, we decided to once again make the cast coed. There was no riot, the change was a success and women were in to stay.

Jerome Breslow '56
Potomac, Md.

Thanks for the nice issue [Spring 2014] about the Varsity Show in modern times. Much of what is described is not "traditional," however. I was in the Varsity Show each year 1937–41 (the great I.A.L. "Izzy" Diamond '41 wrote them) and they were wonderful and satirical but not about Columbia. There was no "pie in the face" at selection. The World's Fair was satirized, as in Izzy's great song: "Give me the trylon and the perisphere, And let them pile on the good old atmosphere." The highlight was always the Pony Ballet. We, alas, had no girls in our casts.

Charles Plotz '41
Brooklyn, N.Y.

I enjoyed the Spring 2014 edition, which focused on the Varsity Show. In "All the Columbia World's a Stage," ["Within the

Family"] *CCT* editor Alex Sachare '71 refers to a lapse in performances 1967–78, when "the Varsity Show was revived with The Great Columbia Riot of '78."

I had the great fortune of working on the 1978 show. Behind this resurrection were then-students Mike Eisenberg '78 and Steve Werner '78, who made it their mission to revive what had effectively become a lapsed tradition. At the time, no organization really supported the production. (For that matter, there was no one to approve or disapprove of their plans to do the show at all.) So, with the optimism of the young, they decided just to go ahead, with Steve largely supporting the production with his own funds.

There were, of course, other unsung heroes. Ken Kalb produced the show, arranging such things as rehearsal space and publicity. The show also benefited from the help of a first-rate director, Joe Klein '58.

Sometimes meaningful traditions die out. But thanks to Steve and Mike, Columbia students today continue to take part in (or see) a dramatic spectacle that thankfully has persevered.

Bennett Caplan '78
Bethesda, Md.

Professor Danto

While I appreciated the tribute to Arthur Danto in *CCT* ("Around the Quads," Winter 2013–14), it focused almost exclusively on his contributions to art criticism. I knew Danto in a much different context that I believe deserves equal (or greater) attention, namely, as a teacher and mentor.

The first semester of my freshman year I enrolled in Danto's introductory philosophy course. He was an inspiration in the classroom [and] a vibrant force as an instructor. In an age when many senior scholars disdain teaching large introductory courses, he relished the opportunity to do so, teaching the class annually. I admit I disagreed with his approach to philosophical inquiry — I was 17 and, of course, knew better — yet he always made himself available to engage with me.

In the intervening years, even when I was not taking a class with Danto, I camped out in front of his office in order to discuss with him whatever philosophical dilemma was bothering me at the moment. He was forever gracious in permitting me to pick his brain.

I was in the first class in Columbia's philosophy department to enjoy the opportunity to write a senior thesis. Danto, to my great good fortune, agreed to supervise mine, demonstrating remarkable patience and affable support.

Although his contributions to the world of art criticism deserve recognition, I shall always remember Danto as a masterful teacher and a forbearing adviser.

Cary J. Nederman '78
College Station, Texas

Editor's note: The author is a professor of political science at Texas A&M.



A scene from this year's Varsity Show, *Morningside Nights*.
PHOTO: CHAR SMULLYAN

Hoop Dreams

As we look back on the 2013–14 Columbia men's basketball season, one cannot underestimate the magnitude of what coach Kyle Smith, his able staff and most of the student-athletes on this year's team have accomplished.

Going far beyond the numbers (21–13 overall record, 8–6 Ivy League, first postseason berth in decades) and personal accomplishments (Alex Rosenberg '15 and Maodo Lo '16 garnering All-Ivy first and second-team honors, respectively), a sense of pride and vitality has been instilled in this program. Our Ivy League games are particularly entertaining and something to look forward to in the winter months, and the atmosphere in Levien Gymnasium has been a sight to behold with several contests being sold out or nearly sold out.

In addition, the chemistry of this group was really evident this year and is a tribute to Smith's recruiting philosophy and his emphasis on "team first, check your ego at the door." Look at the field goals attempted for the season and you can get a good idea of how this group bought into the concept of ball distribution and a "pass first" mentality.

Several of the New York City tabloids have started to pick up on the resurgence of the basketball program on Morningside Heights and with good reason. Smith has amassed 63 wins in his four years at Columbia and his and the program's future looks bright, with I hope a good recruiting class being shored up.

Congratulations to the 2013–14 Lions. Roar, Lion, Roar!

Anthony Piscitelli '78
Bronx, N.Y.

Hoop Memories

The first two 1948 Class Notes in the Spring 2014 issue landed me back on the basketball court for the '46–'47 season. In his note, Dr. Peter A. Arturi '48 mentioned he played on the JV team under Lou Rossini '47 TC, as I did. After all these years, I am sorry to say that I can't conjure up a face with the name, but I'm sure Peter can't, either. I also remember scrimmaging against Lou during the second semester in 1946. I had been discharged in February from the Army Air Corps, just in time to pick up where I had left off three years earlier. Lou was named JV coach, a position he held until he succeeded Gordon Ridings as varsity coach at the start of the 1951 season.

Lou was a teammate of Walt Budko '47E, whose death in spring 2013 was reported in the 1948 Class Notes by Dr. Murray Strober '48 and Albert Burstein '47. I had learned of Walt's passing from the Trinity School magazine. He and I played together there, or more accurately, we played against each other, as I was the JV center while Walt was the star center on the varsity team. If Murray or Al had to defend against Walt under the basket, they would not have remembered him as a "gentle giant."

George Woolfe '48
Falmouth, Mass.

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"Daily" No More: Spectator *Will Emphasize Digital Publication*

The *Columbia Daily Spectator* is daily no more — at least, not in print.

On April 27, the venerable 137-year-old newspaper announced that in order to "make its journalism — and its online presentation — the priority," it would cease daily publication of its print edition. Instead, *Spectator* said it will publish "a weekly print product while bolstering its commitment to sharp, round-the-clock coverage of Columbia and the surrounding neighborhoods."

Columbia will become the only Ivy League school without a daily student-produced paper.

Nonetheless, the announcement claimed, "While we will no longer print five days per week, we will be more 'daily' than ever. This move will strengthen our efforts to be a 24/7 news source for Columbia and the local community, putting us in a position to fund enhancements to our website, overhaul our newsroom culture, and spend more time producing the top-quality journalism that is — and always will be — at the core of *Spectator*'s mission."

Sounds reasonable, right? After all, many daily newspapers have cut back on their publishing schedules during the past decade and longer, and others have folded entirely. The announcement from *Spectator* stated, "We know the vast majority of our readers consume our content online, not in print." So if the majority of your audience isn't reading the print product, why go to the expense of printing it in the first place? Why not devote those resources to producing the best online edition you can? Or, as the announcement put it, "By untying ourselves from the daily print production schedule, we will free editors and writers to focus on providing our readers with the stories they want through the medium they prefer."

If it's all so reasonable, why did I find this news so sad? And not just me — every former Speccie I contacted, even one former editor who is now an online journalist, expressed the same feeling.

When asked my major at Columbia, the Registrar will tell you sociology but I usually say it was *Spectator*. I spent far more hours at the *Spec* offices on the third floor of Ferris Booth Hall or out covering events for the paper than I did studying in Butler Library, or anywhere else for that matter. And, with the perspective that comes from more than four decades in the work force, I can say without question that I learned more at *Spectator* than I did in any class, or two or three.



PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

I'm not talking just about the nuts and bolts of journalism, although I picked up enough of those in four years at *Spectator* to land a job with Associated Press and start work the week of graduation. I'm talking about the teamwork and the sacrifice and the dedication it takes to see a newspaper through from concept to completion, from story list to delivery, so it can be read — surreptitiously, of course — in 9 a.m. classes.

The most important thing I learned during four years at *Spectator*, including two years as sports editor, was accountability. I learned the importance of getting it right. I learned to gather facts, to check them, to question them and recheck them until I knew the story I was running was accurate — and not just accurate, but fair and responsible as well. No, this wasn't like heart surgery where a patient could die if a mistake was made. But if there was an error or a misrepresentation in one of my stories when the paper arrived in the morning, it was on me — and that was one feeling I never wanted to have.

That's what worries me about the new *Spec*. Despite the pledges to produce "top-quality journalism," will it devolve into just another blog? Unlike print, where a mistake lives forever, an error online can be fixed at any time with just a few keystrokes. Without that specter of seeing a mistake you made, or one you let slip past your vigilant eyes, in print the next morning, will there be one less layer of fact-checking, one less source to contact for verification, one less reading to make sure there are no unintended meanings, one less check to make sure a name is spelled correctly? That's the kind of accountability I'm talking about. It's a valuable lesson I learned at *Spectator* by poring over copy, galleys and page proofs, and I hope it remains part of the *Spec* culture as the emphasis moves to digital delivery.

I hope *Spectator* flourishes in its new format. I will miss picking up a copy of the paper in the morning and reading it at my desk, but I will log on whenever I remember. It won't be the same experience for me, but that's not what's most important; my hope is that legions of Speccies present and future will have the same rich, challenging and fulfilling experience at *Spectator* that I had.

Alex Sachare

AROUND THE QUADS

Class of 2014 Celebrates at Senior Dinner

On May 6, graduating seniors gathered under a tent on South Lawn at the annual Senior Dinner to celebrate the end of classes. More than 900 members of the Class of 2014 enjoyed dinner and mingled with friends while a photo slideshow played on the ceiling, projecting images of four years' worth of their favorite photos. In the background, upbeat music kept the energy high while students lined up for a turn inside the event's photo booth.

After an introduction from Class President Conan Cassidy '14, Senior Dinner Co-chairs Luisa Lizoain '14 and Abigail Pucker '14 recited a short poem about friendship and thanked everyone for coming. Next to speak was Dean James J. Valentini, who congratulated the seniors on their accomplishments.

As of June 3, the Senior Fund raised more than $22,600 and more than 250 seniors participated in Valentini's "3-2-1 Challenge," which encourages students to contribute for three years, encourage two friends to donate and have their donations matched one-to-one by an alumnus/a — for the third consecutive year, Gene Davis '75, '76 SIPA, '80L. Because the class met its participation goal, the Senior Fund also received a gift of $100,000 from Charles Santoro '82.

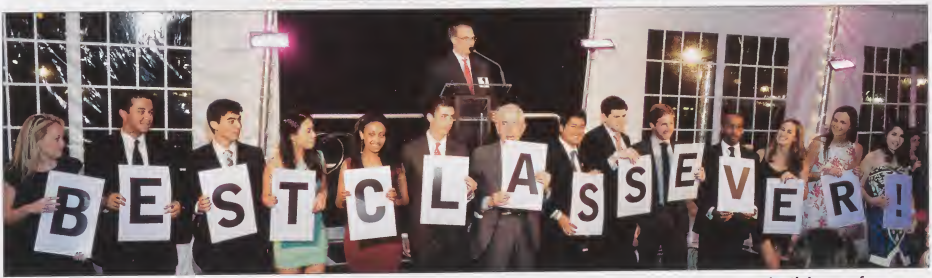




Student Council President Daphne Chen '14 gave a toast to their new lives as graduates, saying, "It's a hello toast, because I'm not ready to say goodbye to you."

Kyra Tirana Barry '87, outgoing president of the Columbia College Alumni Association, welcomed the students to the CCAA and asked them to stand and cheer if they had participated in certain Columbia traditions, which brought the attendees to their feet for everything from passing the swim test to finishing off a giant Koronet pizza slice. Calvin Sun '08, president of the Columbia College Young Alumni Board, closed out the evening by inviting the students to their first alumni event, a party on the *U.S.S. Intrepid* during Alumni Reunion Weekend.

View a Facebook album of the dinner and shots from the photo booth: facebook.com/alumnicc/photos_albums.



Above, seniors and Gerald Sherwin '55 (middle) spell out a superlative message. Top and middle, Dean James J. Valentini poses for a group selfie and students don costumes for the photo booth.

PHOTOS: RICH ORMANOWSKI

Columbia Launches Startup Lab in SoHo

The Columbia Startup Lab, a collaboration among the College, Engineering, SIPA and the Business School, opened in Manhattan on June 10 with a mission of fostering entrepreneurship among young alumni. The startup lab provides a co-working space with heavily subsidized rent — members pay $150 a month per seat, with the remainder covered by Columbia — for alumni who have graduated within the last five years and have started their own businesses.

The lab is located at WeWork, which runs communal work spaces around the world, including 12 locations in Manhattan. Columbia rented the first floor of the West SoHo space (existing startups already occupy the upper floors), allowing young alumni to interact with one another and with more established tech and media startups. WeWork generally uses open floor plans, with couches, tables and recreation centers to encourage discussion and idea sharing.

"If you think about it, the whole thing is networking. You're bringing people together from different disciplines — it's all a big mixing pot," says Chris McGarry, Columbia's director of entrepreneurship.

More than 35 Columbia alumni-helmed businesses have joined the space, including six run by College alumni. Aditya Mukerjee '12 founded BoardRounds, a healthcare startup that focuses on patient follow-up care. Matt Star '12 is coding for Rawr Denim, a blog about raw denim that offers a suite of tools to help men find the perfect pair of jeans. Brian Valero '12 and Nicholas Cox '11 launched Drop Global, both a mobile community where surfers, snowboarders and other action sports athletes can connect and an e-commerce site for action sport-inspired clothing and gear. Carolyn Yim '11 created a way for consumers to directly purchase her luxury knitwear with her online shop, +PLY. Cooper Pickett '10 started Longneck & Thunderfoot to help companies develop online media strategies, and John Mascari '08 is serving up organic pasteurized juices designed for expecting mothers through Bundle Organics.

Alumni applied for the space in February and March and the chosen businesses, which can use the space from four months to a year, were announced in early April. McGarry says the teams were selected by the Columbia Entrepreneurship Initiative for their ability to bring a range of skills and interests, so members can learn from one another. "The biggest victories that we've scored are when we broker collaborations between schools and create programs and resources that are greater than the sum of their parts," says McGarry.

Anne-Ryan Heatwole '09J

Students Honor Friedman, Khalidi



Award winners Rashid Khalidi, the Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies, and Robert Friedman, a professor of mathematics, flank Dean James J. Valentini (top row, center), surrounded by Academics Awards Committee members and Rose Razaghian, executive director, planning and analysis (top row, far right).
PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

On May 5, the Academic Awards Committee (AAC) of the Columbia College Student Council presented the 2014 Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching, which recognizes a faculty member's "humanity, devotion to truth and inspiring leadership," to Professor of Mathematics Robert Friedman. Also presented by the AAC the same night was the 2014 Lionel Trilling Book Award, given to a member of Columbia's faculty whose book was published in the previous year, to Rashid Khalidi, the Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies in the Department of History, for *Brokers of Deceit: How the U.S. has Undermined Peace in the Middle East* (2013).

The awards, which were presented in the Faculty Room of Low Library, are the only academic honors judged and presented by students. The 15 AAC members, who represent a cross-section of classes and majors, audit approximately 600 hours of classes of Van Doren Award nominees and read the books under consideration for the Trilling Award.

The Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching has been awarded annually since 1962 and was established in honor of Mark Van Doren '21 GSAS, a Pulitzer Prize winner and legendary Columbia faculty member. The Lionel Trilling Book Award, established in 1976, is given to a member of Columbia's faculty whose recent book upholds a level of excellence commensurate with the work of Lionel Trilling '25, '38 GSAS, another famous Columbia faculty member and a public intellectual and literary critic.

Columbia Joins edX

Columbia has launched a partnership with edX, a nonprofit online learning platform founded in 2012 by Harvard and MIT. The first Columbia course offered through edX will be "The United States in the Era of the Civil War and Reconstruction," taught by Eric Foner '63, '69 GSAS, the DeWitt Clinton Professor of History and a Bancroft Prize, Lincoln Prize and Pulitzer Prize winner.

"Professor Foner is a legend," said Anant Agarwal, the president of edX, which has offered more than 150 courses from 33 colleges and universities in a range of subjects. "Having his course on the Civil War on edX will significantly enhance the quality of the courses on edX."

Foner plans to retire at the end of the 2014–15 academic year and taught his Civil War course for the last time this past spring, when the lectures and discussion sections were recorded. Of the partnership with edX, Foner told *Spectator*, "To me, this is just a way to disseminate knowledge to a broad audience." He added that he was glad that the course "can be available to people long after I've left the University."

Though Columbia professors have taught massive open online courses through other platforms, including Coursera, no University-wide partnerships had been established before the March 13 announcement about edX.

Five Alumni Honored at John Jay Awards Dinner



Dean James J. Valentini (far left) with honorees (left to right) Dr. Robert J. Lefkowitz '62, '66 P&S; James L. Melcher '61; Joyce Chang '86; Michael S. Solender '86; and Mozelle W. Thompson '76, '81L.
PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

Five accomplished alumni were each presented a 2014 John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement at the annual John Jay Awards Dinner, held at Cipriani 42nd Street on March 5. This year marked the 36th annual dinner; 195 honorees and 11 decades of alumni have been honored. The dinner raised $1.1 million for the John Jay National Scholars Program, which provides financial aid and special programming to enhance the academic and extracurricular experiences of outstanding students.

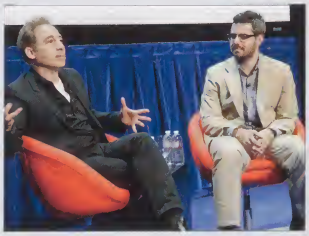
The 2014 honorees were Joyce Chang '86, managing director, global head of fixed income research, J.P. Morgan; Dr. Robert J. Lefkowitz '62, '66 P&S, an investigator with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the James B. Duke Professor of Medicine and professor of biochemistry and chemistry at Duke University Medical Center; James L. Melcher '61, founding partner, Balestra Capital; Michael S. Solender '86, Americas vice chair and general counsel, Ernst & Young; and Mozelle W. Thompson '76, '81L, CEO, Thompson Strategic Consulting.

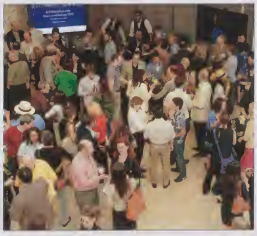
Read more about the dinner, including quotations from the honorees: college.columbia.edu/news/five-alumni-honored-2014-john-jay-awards-dinner. View a Facebook album of the dinner: facebook.com/alumnicc/photos_albums.

Greene Speaks to Alumni in California

On April 29, almost 140 alumni, students and guests joined physics and mathematics professor, and author, Brian Greene (below, far left) at The Paley Center for Media in Beverly Hills for an illuminating conversation moderated by writer, award-winning TV correspondent and Los Angeles resident Gideon Yago '00. Greene discussed with Yago the new World Science U, an online learning platform, as well as the Columbia Science Initiative, which celebrates Columbia's leadership in research and innovative teaching. The conversation was followed by a reception at the center's roof garden.

Go to alumni.columbia.edu/columbia-science to watch the full livestream of the event and to learn more about the Columbia Science Initiative. Go to facebook.com/alumnicc/photos_albums to view photos from the event.





IN LUMINE TUO

KATZNELSON: Ira Katznelson '66, the Ruggles Professor of Political Science and History, was awarded the 2014 Bancroft Prize for his most recent book, *Fear Itself: The New Deal and the Origins of Our Time*, in which he exposes the racial politics that enabled Franklin Delano Roosevelt to secure Congressional support for many New Deal measures.

The prize, which was established at Columbia in 1948 with a bequest from Frederic Bancroft, a preeminent historian, librarian, author and Columbia lecturer, is considered one of the most distinguished academic awards in the field of history. It is awarded annually by the University trustees to two authors of distinguished works in American history or diplomacy. Ari Kelman, a professor of history at UC Davis, also received the award this year for his book *A Misplaced Massacre: Struggling over the Memory of Sand Creek.*

AXEL: University Professor Richard Axel '67 has been elected to The Royal Society, the United Kingdom's national academy of science, as a foreign member. Axel, a professor in the Medical Center's Departments of Neuroscience; of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics; and of Pathology and Cell Biology, has headed multiple studies in neuroscience and gene transfer techniques. He is a member of The Mortimer B. Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute and of The Kavli Institute for Brain Science and an investigator with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Along with Linda Buck, Axel was awarded a Nobel Prize in 2004 for a series of pioneering studies that clarified how the sense of smell works.

Five Minutes with ... Alondra Nelson

Alondra Nelson is a professor of sociology and gender studies, and director of the Institute for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality. Raised in San Diego, she earned a B.A. in anthropology from UC San Diego and a Ph.D. in American studies from NYU. Her 2011 book, *Body and Soul: The Black Panther Party and the Fight Against Medical Discrimination*, was recognized with four scholarly awards.

What's your specialty?
I work at the intersection of the sociology of race and/or ethnicity and the sociology of science. I went to graduate school at a time when a great deal of new scholarship was helping us to better understand how ideas about race (and justifications for racism) were drawn from the biological sciences and medicine — including books like *Tuskegee's Truths* by Susan Reverby, which traced the notorious syphilis experiment, a scientific inquiry partly premised on spurious theories about fundamental differences between black bodies and white bodies, and Robert Proctor's *Racial Hygiene: Medicine Under the Nazis*, which explored the way that medical research was used for ideological purposes in Hitler's Germany. This new wave of scholarship highlighted moments in which science and technology were mobilized against marginalized groups. As someone also interested in African-American history, I was struck that a lot of this literature suggested a one-way street. It gave us a picture of race making "from above" — in science and medicine — but offered little insight into how the communities detrimentally impacted by these ideas responded to them.

And that led you to the Black Panthers?
Yes. We often think about the Civil Rights Movement as being about access to schools and to lunch counters but it was also about access to medical care and medical facilities, and to nursing schools and medical education. The Black Panthers emerged in 1966 as an organization that was trying to curb police harassment, and violence and often deadly engagements with police came to be the way that we think most about them. But part of their story is also radical and fairly ambitious health care activism. I wrote about their sickle cell anemia campaign, which best I could discern is the only case of a grassroots genetic screening and counseling program in the United States. I also wrote about their challenge to a planned research center at UCLA that was gathering together researchers interested in studying the idea that there were biological causations for violence. In this instance, the Black Panthers were successful in working with a coalition of other activists, including the NAACP and the National Organization for Women, to block state funding to the center, so it never came to be. What's interesting about this Black Panther story, surprisingly, is that it's not a poignant postscript about the damage that was done to vulnerable communities by biomedical experimentation. Rather, it's a powerful story that says, "we learned about this as it was happening, we understood what the stakes were and what the implications of this research was and we were able to stop it."



What's your current project?
I have a book coming out next year called *The Social Life of DNA*. It started as ethnographic research in 2003 when direct-to-consumer genetic ancestry testing companies were introduced in the U.S. Given the complicated history of genetic science, I was initially interested in whether these tests were contributing to consumers thinking about themselves in essentialist ways: Are we coming to think about our genes as our destiny, both for our health and for our identity? For me, that was a potentially dangerous thing. But what I found is that people were both more judicious than I would have thought and also more nuanced and sophisticated. What became more interesting was the way that people navigated the different threads of information that can make up one's identity: the tests, the family stories, the things written in the front of a bible, oral history, even the things you might feel about what you think your ancestry is.

What undergraduate courses do you teach?
A lecture course called "Post-Racial America?" It looks at facets of American life, such as the workforce, mass incarceration, urban and suburban living, the intersection of race and ethnicity with gender and class, and growing populations of people who call themselves multi-racials. As someone who is a post-Civil Rights Movement sociologist, I think many things have gotten better, some things have not changed and some things have gotten worse. So to pose that question every week — post-racial America? — makes students think with complexity about contemporary racial politics in the U.S.

What historical figure would you most like to meet?
Ida B. Wells-Barnett. She was a journalist, lay sociologist and an anti-lynching crusader as well as a woman leader working in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, when there weren't many well-known women leaders. It's one thing to take the helm of an organization; it's another to have unpopular opinions and to be disliked both because you're operating outside of the realm of normative, polite womanhood and outside of the realm of status quo politics. And at the same time she was a mother, she was a grandmother, she was a wife. Ida B. Wells was able to accomplish things that most of us can only aspire to.

Interview: Alexis Tonti '11 Arts
Photo: Bruce Gilbert

IN MEMORIAM

Robert L. Belknap '57 SIPA, '59 GSAS, Professor Emeritus

Robert L. Belknap '57 SIPA, '59 GSAS, Professor Emeritus of Russian in the Department of Slavic Languages, a longtime Literature Humanities instructor and a former acting Dean of the College, died on March 17, 2014. He was 84.

Belknap was regarded as one of the world's foremost experts on Russian literature, particularly Dostoevsky. He authored two major studies, *The Structure of The Brothers Karamazov* (1967, reprinted 1989) and *The Genesis of The Brothers Karamazov: The Aesthetics, Ideology, and Psychology of Making a Text* (1990). Together with Columbia colleague Richard F. Kuhns Jr. '55 GSAS, Belknap also wrote *Tradition and Innovation: General Education and the Reintegration of the University* (1977).

Belknap was born in New York City on December 23, 1929, and graduated from



Princeton in 1951. He began teaching at Columbia in 1956 following Army service and earned a Ph.D. in 1959 from GSAS in Slavic languages and literatures. He also studied at the University of Paris and Leningrad (now St. Petersburg) State University.

Belknap began teaching Lit Hum in 1960 and continued for nearly every year thereafter. He chaired Lit Hum in 1963, 1967–70 and again for two years in the 1980s. He also taught courses in Russian and comparative literature and literary theory and major Asian classics. He was acting Dean of the College in 1975 and was associate dean for student affairs, chair of the Slavic languages department and director of the Russian (now Harriman) Institute. In 2000–01, Belknap was honored for distinguished service to the Core Curriculum. He was presented the Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching in 1980 and a Society of Columbia Graduates' Great Teacher Award in 2010.

In fall 2013, Core lecturer Anne Diebel Ph.D. '13 GSAS was appointed the inaugural Robert Belknap Core Faculty Fellow, a named lectureship endowed by Belknap's former student Jay Lindsey '75. *Teaching Nineteenth-Century Russian Literature: Essays in Honor of Robert L. Belknap* was released in February.

Liza Knapp '85 GSAS, department chair and associate professor of Slavic languages, said, "Bob was a magisterial teacher of literature in true Columbia tradition, a guiding intellect and scholar in the field of Russian literature and a committed educator who devoted his energy and vision to making Columbia an institution to be proud of."

Belknap is survived by his wife, Cynthia Whittaker; daughters from a previous marriage, Lydia Duff, Ellen '86 Arch. and Abigail Krueger; stepchildren, Erica and Andrew Whittaker; and sisters, Louise Belknap Carter and Barbara. A memorial service is scheduled for St. Paul's Chapel on Friday, September 12, at 2 p.m.

Karl Daum '15

Ten Faculty Receive Lenfest Awards

Ten Arts and Sciences faculty members have been honored with Lenfest Distinguished Columbia Faculty Awards for their ability to engage, challenge and inspire students. The awards were established by University Trustee (now Emeritus) Gerry Lenfest '58L in 2005 and award each honoree a stipend of $25,000 a year for three years.

Two of this year's honorees are College alumnae: Christine Philliou '94, associate professor of history, and Valerie Purdie-Vaughns '93, assistant professor of psychology.

The others are Elizabeth Blackmar, professor of history; Virginia Page Fortna, professor of political science and chair of the Department of Political Science; Erik Gray, associate professor of English and comparative literature; Peter Kelemen, the Arthur D. Storke Memorial Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences; Ioannis Mylonopoulos, associate professor of art history and archaeology; Joanna Stalnaker, associate professor of French and romance philology; Brent Stockwell, associate professor of biological sciences and chemistry; and Rafael Yuste, professor of biology and neuroscience.

Lavine Honored with Seixas Award

On May 15, University Trustee Jonathan S. Lavine '88 received the 14th annual Gershom Mendes Seixas Award from Columbia/Barnard Hillel. The award is given to those who have made outstanding contributions to Jewish life at Columbia.

A former chair of the Board of Visitors, Lavine is the managing partner and chief investment officer of Sankaty Advisors. President Lee C. Bollinger said, "Jonathan Lavine is a joy to us on the trustees. We depend upon his enthusiasm. Every day, we're grateful for his involvement."

Held in the Low Rotunda, the event raised more than $1.3 million thanks to a matching gift of $500,000 from Lavine and Robert K. Kraft '63, setting a record for the largest gift in the award's history. Kraft, who also presented the award, spoke about Lavine's passion for social justice.



Robert K. Kraft '63 (left) and Seixas Award honoree Jonathan S. Lavine '88.
PHOTO: JOHN COSTELLO

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS



Maggie Gyllenhaal '99

■ **Maggie Gyllenhaal '99** will make her Broadway debut this fall, starring opposite Ewan McGregor in Tom Stoppard's Tony-winning play *The Real Thing*. The Roundabout production is scheduled to begin performances on October 2, officially open on October 30 and run through January 4, 2015. Best known for her work in films such as *Mona Lisa Smile, Secretary, The Dark Knight, Sherrybaby* and *Crazy Heart*, Gyllenhaal's stage credits include *Closer, Antony and Cleopatra, Three Sisters* and *Homebody/Kabul*.

■ **Michael Sovern '53, '55L** released his memoir, *An Improbable Life: My 60 Years at Columbia and Other Adventures*, which is in part about his time as University president 1980–93. He was featured on public radio's *The Leonard Lopate Show* on March 3, was interviewed in the Spring 2014 issue of *Columbia* magazine and will write about his book and his career for the Fall 2014 issue of *CCT*.

■ **Sam Bodkin '12** founded Groupmuse, a website that matches people who want to volunteer their home for a classical musical performance with musicians and guests. The performances are typically free but afterward, hosts pass a hat for the musicians. More than 100 events have been held since January 2013, and Bodkin has attended almost all of them. "The goal of Groupmuse is to revitalize the role of classical music in contemporary society by emphasizing and accentuating its inherently social nature, and to create lots of legitimately fun, stimulating and enriching opportunities to encourage folks to expand their minds and their social circles," says Bodkin.



David Paterson '77
PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

■ Dr. **Robert J. Lefkowitz '62, '66 P&S** and Dr. **George Yancopoulos '80, '86 GSAS, '87 P&S** returned to their high school, Bronx Science, on March 4 to speak with students and teachers about careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Lefkowitz, an investigator with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the James B. Duke Professor of Medicine and professor of biochemistry and chemistry at Duke University Medical Center, won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2012 for his work in receptor biology, and Yancopoulos is the chief scientist and president of Regeneron Laboratories, the largest biotechnology company in New York and one of the fastest growing in the nation.

■ Former New York Gov. **David Paterson '77** has donated papers detailing his time as lieutenant governor and governor to Columbia's Rare Book & Manuscript Library. The donation covers Paterson's political career 2007–11, and the majority of the papers will be available to the public without restrictions.

■ **Marc DaCosta '06** and **Hicham Oudghiri '06** were featured in a *New York Times* article about their website Enigma.io, which standardizes and makes searchable public data sets from federal and state agencies. With $4.5 million raised from investors, the company allows the public to search data sets free of charge. The website launched for public use on March 23.

Barry, Fergang Recognized for Service as Alumni Leaders

Classmates Kyra Tirana Barry '87 and Yale M. Fergang '87, '88E will complete their terms as president of the Columbia College Alumni Association (CCAA) Board of Directors and chair of the Columbia College Board of Visitors (BOV), respectively, on June 30. Both were honored for their service to the College with a toast from Dean James J. Valentini at the final meeting of the academic year of their respective boards.

Barry completed a three-year term as president of the CCAA Board of Directors and will be succeeded by Doug Wolf '88. Valentini praised Barry for her leadership, guidance and support during his first years as dean, calling her a key partner whom he frequently turned to for advice and counsel during that transition and praising her for her dedication and devotion to the College. He also thanked outgoing CCAA board members for their service.

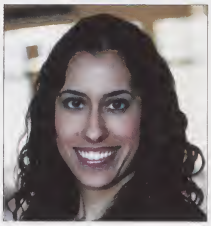




Dean James J. Valentini (above left, middle) with CCAA outgoing board president Kyra Tirana Barry '87 and incoming president Doug Wolf '88, and (above right) with outgoing BOV chair Yale Fergang '87, '88E.
PHOTOS: CCAA, CHAR SMULLYAN; BOV, MICHAEL DiVITO

Fergang, who will be succeeded as BOV chair by Alexander Navab '87, was presented with a personalized chair by the dean for leading the BOV for two years. Also thanked for their service were outgoing BOV members Alexandra Wallace Creed '88; Gene i. Davis '75, '76 SIPA, '80L; Allen I. Fagin '71; Robert L. Friedman '64; Thomas H. Glocer '81; Jeffrey D. Knowles '71; Sami W. Mnaymneh '81; J. Michael Schell '69; M. Glenn Vinson Jr. '67; and Rory Wilfork '97.

■ Two young alumnae have won prestigious awards this year: **Amirah Sequeira '12** received a Gates Cambridge Scholarship while **Katie Bentivoglio '13** received a Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Junior Fellowship. Sequeira plans to pursue a one-year M.Phil. in history, philosophy and sociology of science, medicine and technology at the University of Cambridge; Bentivoglio will work for one year as a research assistant for the Carnegie international affairs think tank.



Lisette Camilo '98
PHOTO: MARCELLO RIOS

■ **Lisette Camilo '98** is the new director of the Mayor's Office of Contract Services for NYC Mayor Bill de Blasio. Formerly the office's acting general counsel, Camilo will now focus on procuring services and contracts for the New York City government.



Allen I. Fagin '71

■ Three alumni made *Time* magazine's 100 Most Influential People list this year: U.S. Attorney General **Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, '76L**, President **Barack Obama '83** and showrunner **Jenji Kohan '91** of *Weeds* and *Orange Is the New Black*. The list, released on April 23, cited Holder for working to end discriminatory sentencing practices as well as for taking on banks for mortgage fraud and tax evasion. Obama was viewed through the first 100 days of his second term and his plans for the rest of his presidency, and Kohan was noted for her ability to create non-traditional television shows with characters that cover a range of races and sexual orientations.

■ Three alumni were nominated for 2014 Tony awards: **Terrence McNally '60**'s play *Mothers and Sons* was nominated in the Best Play category, while **Brian Yorkey '93** and **Tom Kitt '96** were nominated in the Best Original Score category for their musical *If/Then*.

■ **Allen I. Fagin '71,** a prominent attorney and former chairman of Proskauer Rose, has been named EVP and chief professional officer of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, for which he had served as a lay leader. The Orthodox Union, as it is known, is the world's largest kosher certification organization and also has an impact on the Jewish world through its array of religious, youth, social action, educational, public policy and community development services, programs and activities. Fagin was at Proskauer 1976–2003 and was its chairman 2005–11.

■ **Jim Jarmusch '75** was celebrated April 2–10 with the Film Society of Lincoln Center's "Permanent Vacation: The Films of Jim Jarmusch," a retrospective of 11 of his feature films as well as several of his shorts and music videos. Jarmusch's latest film, *Only Lovers Left Alive*, stars Tom Hiddleston and Tilda Swinton as a vampire couple who have been together for centuries. The film was first shown at the Cannes Film Festival last year and was released in the United States in April.

Ifill Honored at CCYA Fund Spring Benefit

More than 200 young alumni attended the eighth annual Columbia College Young Alumni Fund Spring Benefit on April 25 at The Racquet and Tennis Club. This event brings together alumni from the Classes of 2004–13 not only for a fun evening but for a good cause, as a portion of each ticket goes to the Young Alumni Fund. The Gerald Sherwin '55 Young Alumni Service Award is presented at the event, and this year's honoree was Justin M. Ifill '06, shown above with Sherwin (who was celebrating his 80th birthday, hence the sash). The benefit raised almost $10,000 for the Young Alumni Fund and the silent auction raised more than $2,300 to support summer internship stipends.



PHOTO: SCOTT RUDD/SCOTTRUDDEVENTS.COM

View a Facebook album of the event: facebook.com/alumnicc/photos_albums.

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Roar, Lion, Roar

Men's Tennis Wins Ivies, Reaches NCAA Sweet 16

In a season coach Bid Goswami called "pretty historic," Columbia's men's tennis won the national indoor doubles title, compiled a 22–2 overall record, swept the Ivy League championship while losing only one point in seven matches and recorded the first two NCAA tournament victories in program history.

Columbia's only losses of the season both came at Athens, Ga., to then third-ranked Georgia early in the season and to top-ranked Southern Cal in the NCAA Tournament's Sweet 16. Columbia's two losses were the fewest in the NCAA. USC went on to win its fifth national title in six years.



Playing at No. 1 singles, Winston Lin '15, the Ivy League Player of the Year, compiled a 31–3 record and won 20 consecutive matches.
PHOTO: BILL KALLENBERG

Columbia got an early taste of success at the ITA/USTA National Indoor Championships in November when Ashok Narayana '15 and Max Schnur '15 stunned the top-seeded and No. 1 nationally ranked pair of Mikelis Libietis and Hunter Reese from Tennessee 6–3, 6–2 to win the doubles crown at the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center.

After beating Marist and Monmouth to open their regular season, the Lions headed south to Athens for the ITA Kickoff Classic, where they were beaten by the Bulldogs 4–2 before they bounced back to defeat Washington 4–0. That began an 18-match winning streak for the Lions, capped by a sweep of their Ivy opponents for their first league title since 2010 and their 11th Ivy crown overall.

"All the things that we wanted to accomplish since September, we have now," Goswami said after Columbia blanked Princeton 4–0 on April 20. "This was the last, to win the Ivy League outright." Well, not quite the last. "This feels good," Narayana said before quickly adding, "This wasn't our biggest goal. We want to make a dent at the NCAAs, and we feel confident."

Traveling to Nashville for the NCAA Regionals, the Lions beat East Tennessee State 4–0 for their first NCAA tournament win. Then they surprised host Vanderbilt 4–3 as Winston Lin '15, the Ivy League Player of the Year, fought off cramps and defeated Austin Gonzales 2–6, 6–3, 6–4 in No. 1 singles, the last match of the day. That earned Columbia a return trip to Athens, site of the NCAA Championships, where the Lions were defeated by Southern Cal 5–0.

"It has been a remarkable, remarkable year for us. We could not be any prouder of what this team has accomplished," associate head coach Howard Endelman said. "If you would have told us in the beginning of the year that we'd play the entire 2014 season with just two losses, one to No. 3 Georgia and the other No. 1 USC, both in national tournaments? I think we'd take it. It is easy to be disappointed because our mentality is we don't want to back down from anyone, but that being said, when we reflect on this year, we know how special it was and how blessed we are to have such a unique group of players."

SCOREBOARD *For the latest news on Columbia athletics, visit* **gocolumbialions.com.**

3 Ivy League baseball championships since 2008 under coach Brett Boretti

31 Singles wins by Winston Lin '15, men's tennis' Ivy Player of the Year

.917 Winning percentage by men's tennis, which compiled a 22–2 record

21 Victories by men's basketball, Columbia's most since 1968

Men's Golf Tops Ivies

Men's golf won its fourth Ivy League championship in the last seven years, posting a 12-stroke victory at Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, N.J., on April 25–27. Columbia took control of the three-round tournament by recording a team score of 276 in the middle round, 13 strokes lower than any other round shot at Baltusrol in the championships.

Leading the Lions was Brandon Jowers '15E (74-69-75—218), who finished fourth overall and was named the co-Ivy League Player of the Year. Harrison Shih '16 (77-70-73—220) joined Jowers on the All-Ivy first team after finishing tied for fifth and Tharusyan Pillay '17 (77-69-77—223) earned a spot on the All-Ivy second team, finishing tied for ninth. Christopher Chu '17, who matched his career-best round with a 68 on Saturday, and Andrew Kim '14 made it five Columbia golfers in the top 25.

SPORTS SHORTS

BASKETBALL: Men's basketball, picked to finish last in the preseason Ivy League media poll, won 21 games and made its first playoff appearance since 1968, reaching the quarterfinals of the CollegeInsider.com Tournament. The Lions (21–13 overall, 8–6 Ivy), without a single senior on the roster, finished tied for third with Princeton in the Ivy League behind Harvard and Yale, Columbia's highest finish since 2000. The 21 victories were the most since the 1968 team went 23–5 and won the Ivy championship. Alex Rosenberg '15 and Maodo Lo '16 led the Lions in scoring with 16.0 and 14.7 points per game, respectively.

ROWING: Columbia earned its first gold medal in a national championship event since 1929 when the lightweight four of Anders Smedsrud '14, Lane Brokaw '14, Matt Bellesheim '15 and Steven Boyle '14E and cox Erica Cunningham '14E won at the National Men's Lightweight Championships on June 1.

TRACK & FIELD: Columbia won four individual titles at the 2014 Ivy League Heptagonal Outdoor Track & Field Championships on May 10–11. Marvellous Iheukwumere '14 successfully defended her crown in the 200m for her fourth outdoor Ivy sprints title in two seasons, Nadia Eke '15 won the women's triple jump, Harrison McFann '14 captured the men's 800m and McFann teamed with Brendon Fish '15E, John Gregorek '14 and Robert Napolitano '17 to win the 4x800m relay.

Cornacchia, Feagin Honored



PHOTO: COURTESY COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

Thomas Cornacchia '85 and Susan K. Feagin '74 GS (flanking Athletics Director M. Dianne Murphy above) were presented with the Athletics Alumni Awards at the Varsity C Celebration on April 29. Cornacchia was a heavyweight rower for four years and established an endowment fund for Columbia rowing in 2011, and Feagin, special adviser to President Lee C. Bollinger, was a leader of the recently completed Columbia Campaign that raised more than $6.1 billion for the University. Among student-athletes, Michael Attal '14 (men's soccer) received the Dwight D. Eisenhower Watch, Danielle Cosentino '14 (field hockey) was presented with the Marion R. Philips Watch and Harrison McFall '14 (men's track and field) and Michelle Piyapattra '14 (women's golf) received the Connie S. Maniatty Outstanding Senior Athlete Award.

ARCHERY: For the first time in program history, Columbia posted top-three finishes in both the compound and recurve divisions at the U.S. Intercollegiate Archery Championships, held in Long Beach, Calif., on May 14–18. The compound team of Judy Zhou '17, Julie Hoffmann '16 and Mary Quien '14E won the silver medal and the recurve team of Sarah Bernstein '15 Barnard, Tiffany Kim '16, Joy Chang '17 and Grace Kim '15 captured the bronze medal.

Baseball Repeats as Ivy Champions

It is often said that the hardest thing to do in sports is repeat as champion, as every opponent takes special pleasure in knocking off the defending titlist, which goes through the entire season wearing a target on its back. That didn't stop the Columbia baseball team.

For the second consecutive season, the Lions won the Ivy League Championship, defeating Dartmouth in a doubleheader 6–2 and 4–1 on May 10. It was the Lions' third crown since 2008 under coach Brett Boretti and their 12th overall title.

Columbia was 5–12 after its spring trip to Florida, Georgia and Texas. But after splitting their next six games, the Lions launched a school-record 15-game winning streak with a 5–4 victory at Dartmouth in the second game of a doubleheader on April 5. Columbia split a pair of doubleheaders against Penn to finish the Ivy season tied with the Quakers atop the Lou Gehrig Division. They then won a one-game playoff 4–0 in Philadelphia on May 3 behind David Speer '14's five-hit, nine-strikeout pitching.

That set up a rematch of last year's best-of-three playoff against Dartmouth, winner of the Red Rolfe Division. Columbia hosted the first two games at Robertson Field at Satow Stadium and made sure there was no need for a Game 3 in Hanover, N.H. Speer pitched eight strong innings and David Vandercook '15 and Robb Paller '16 hit home runs for the Lions in the opener. In the nightcap, Vandercook and Gus Craig '15E homered to support Columbia starter Kevin Roy '16, who allowed three hits over six innings before turning the ball over to Thomas Crispi '16 and George Thanopoulos '16 for three innings of scoreless relief.

In the double-elimination NCAA Regional in Coral Gables, Fla., the Lions lost their first game on May 30 against Texas Tech 3–2 on a run-scoring double by Eric Gutierrez in the ninth inning. The next day, they fell behind Bethune-Cookman 6–0, rallied to score five runs in the final three innings but came up short and lost 6–5.

Columbia finished with an overall record of 29–20, the most wins in program history, including an 18–5 mark against Ivy opponents.

Class of 2014 Pauses to Graduate

By Alex Sachare '71



Dean James J. Valentini chose punctuation as the theme for his remarks to the Class of 2014 at Class Day on May 20, and in particular the importance of the comma.

Valentini said that while graduation might seem like a period or a full stop, coming at the end of students' undergraduate years, it should rather be regarded as a comma or a pause. "It tells you to take a breath before beginning the next phase of your life," he said. "It separates an independent clause — your four years here as a current student — from a dependent clause, the next 62 years or so that you can expect to live (as I'm told by the actuaries of the Social Security Administration), a period of 62 years during which you will be former students. … This dependent clause is one in which we want you to be engaged and continue to be nourished by Columbia but now also want you to be nourishing others. We invite you to a lifelong engagement."

The keynote speaker was screenwriter and actor Dan Futterman '89, who noted that the graduates had drawn a lucky card in life but added, "With that privilege you have responsibility. Do not shut the door behind you. Turn around and give someone else a hand up the stairs and through the door." He urged them to be open-minded to what life has to offer: "Take the blinders off, look at all the paths available to you. You will get pushed back, you will get knocked down, you will. But you can handle adversity. The force of being set back can either injure and debilitate you, or it can propel you with greater force in a different and unexpected direction."

Salutatorian Samuel Walker '14 and Class President Conan Cassidy '14 delivered remarks; awards were presented by Interim Dean of Student Affairs Terry Martinez, Dean of Academic Affairs Kathryn Yatrakis and Columbia College Alumni Association President Kyra Tirana Barry '87; and Senior Fund Chair William Maxfield '14 presented the class gift.

The next day, the members of CC '14 were among the more than 14,000 degree candidates from the University and its affiliates who officially became graduates as President Lee C. Bollinger presided over Commencement, which he described as a chance to look at the world that awaits them. "Yours will be the biggest world ever invented, and yet also the smallest," he said. "And like it or not, your fates will be more intertwined with those of all humanity than ever before, for good or ill depending on how you handle it."





At top, smiles and tears at the end of a long road. Above, Dean James J. Valentini and Dan Futterman '89.

Several College alumni were honored during Commencement: David Rosand '59, '65 GSAS, the Meyer Schapiro Professor Emeritus of Art History, was one of eight honorary degree recipients; cellist Alisa Weilerstein '04 received the University Medal for Excellence, awarded annually to an accomplished alumnus or alumna under the age of 45; and Mitchell B. Freinberg '73, '77 Business and the Hon. Joseph A. Greenaway Jr. '78 were among 10 Alumni Medalists who were honored for distinguished service of 10 years or more to the University.

In a move to a more sustainable ceremony, half the gowns worn by the bachelor's and master's candidates were made from recycled plastic bottles — 46 water bottles per "green" gown, to be precise. The remaining gowns came from inventory. In future years, all graduation gowns will be made from recycled plastic bottles.









Clockwise from top left: Members of the Class of 2014, before and during Class Day and Commencement; President Lee C. Bollinger speaks to the more than 14,000 degree candidates and their guests; the Alumni Parade of Classes at Class Day; celebrating a job well done.

PHOTOS: EILEEN BARROSO AND CHAR SMULLYAN



Academic Awards and Prizes

Dean James J. Valentini and Dean of Academic Affairs Kathryn Yatrakis were on hand to congratulate the students at the 2014 Academic Awards and Prizes Ceremony, held on May 20 at Faculty House. To view photos of the ceremony, as well as the Phi Beta Kappa induction ceremony and other 2014 awards presentations, go to facebook.com/columbiacollege1754/photos_albums and select the album "Senior Awards - Class of 2014."

Special Achievements To Be Noted

Presented by Dean of Academic Affairs Kathryn Yatrakis

HARRY J. CARMAN FELLOWSHIP
Juan Grana '14

HOLTHUSEN-SCHINDLER SCHOLARSHIPS
Claire Blakey '09
Gena Miller '09
Ashley Lherisson '12

CLASS OF 1939 SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Brendan Donley '15
Luke Foster '15
David Froomkin '15
Grant Gutierrez '15
Joseph Lee '15
Elora Lopez '15
Quitze Valenzuela-Stookey '15
Estefania Chavez '16
Yekaterina Kovalyova '16
Nicolas Sambor '16

JARVIS AND CONSTANCE DOCTOROW FELLOWSHIP
Yilin (Timothy) Chen '14

HENRY EVANS TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIP
Hwei Ru Ong '14
Marial Quezada '14

SOLOMON AND SEYMOUR FISHER CIVIL LIBERTIES FELLOWSHIP
Sejal Singh '15
Sahng-Ah Yoo '15

ALBERT ASHER GREEN MEMORIAL PRIZE
Victoria Robson '14

EURETTA J. KELLETT FELLOWSHIP
Anabel Bacon '14
Bernardo Sarmiento Hinojosa '14

RICHARD LEWIS KOHN TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIP
Maris Hubbard '16

DAVID B. TRUMAN ALUMNI AWARD
Noor Habboosh '14

SALUTATORIAN
Samuel Walker '14

VALEDICTORIAN
Margarete Diaz Cuadros '14

Prizes in the Core Curriculum

Presented by Professor Susan Boynton, Department of Music

WALLACE A. GRAY PRIZE IN LITERATURE HUMANITIES
Luca Marzorati '16

DEAN HAWKES MEMORIAL PRIZE IN THE HUMANITIES
Daniel Listwa '15

JONATHAN THRONE KOPIT PRIZE IN LOGIC AND RHETORIC
Veronica Handunge '17

JAMES P. SHENTON PRIZE IN CONTEMPORARY CIVILIZATION
Daniel Listwa '15

Prizes in Science and Mathematics

Presented by Professor John Parsons, Department of Physics

RICHARD BERSOHN PRIZE
Samuel Kazer '14

COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT AWARD
Evan Munro '14
Lisa Zhou '14

THOMAS J. KATZ PRIZE
Seokjoon Oh '14

ALFRED MORITZ MICHAELIS PRIZE
Rohitvarma Basavaraju '14

PROFESSOR VAN AMRINGE MATHEMATICAL PRIZE
First Year: Hardik Shah '17
Sophomore: Samuel Nicoll '16
Junior: Yifei Zhao '15

JOHN DASH VAN BUREN JR. PRIZE IN MATHEMATICS
Sicong Zhang '14

BRIDGES AND STURTEVANT PRIZE IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
Margarete Diaz Cuadros '14
Darpan Patel '14

THE HERBERT DERESIEWICZ SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Annie Lin '15

RUSSELL C. MILLS AWARD
Alison Cooper '14
Zachary Newman '14

THE SANDS FAMILY SUMMER UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Anna Scipioni '14
Anjali Doshi '16
Shea Jendrusina '16
Sarah Kellner '16
Vedika Kumar '16
Kevin Liu '16

Prizes in the Social Sciences

Presented by Professor Gregory Wawro, Department of Political Science

CHARLES A. BEARD PRIZE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE
Varun Char '14

CHARLES A. BEARD PRIZE IN HISTORY
Jenne O'Brien '14

CHANLER HISTORICAL PRIZE
Peter Andrews '14

TARAKNATH DAS FOUNDATION AWARD
Priom Ahmed '14

ALBERT MARION ELSBERG PRIZE
Jessica Geiger '14

LILY PRIZE IN HISTORY
Bob Sun '14

GARRETT MATTINGLY PRIZE
Kenneth Philbrick '14 GS

SANFORD S. PARKER PRIZE
Joonwoo Park '14

SANFORD S. PARKER SUMMER RESEARCH PRIZE
Meir Brooks '15
Laura Fritsch '15
Noah Morgenstein '15
Miryung Yang '15
Nicolas Sambor '16

EDWIN ROBBINS ACADEMIC RESEARCH AND PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIP
Jordan Freisleben '15
Noah Morgenstein '15
Julian Brave Noisecat '15
James Vasco Rodrigues '15

ROMINE PRIZE
Honors Thesis: Evan Munro '14
Seminar Paper: Dylan Glendinning '14

PHYLLIS STEVENS SHARP FELLOWSHIP IN AMERICAN POLITICS
Gregory Graff '15
Morgan Romey '15

CAROLINE PHELPS STOKES PRIZE
Andrew Wright '14

ALAN J. WILLEN MEMORIAL PRIZE
Salonee Bhaman '14

MYRA KRAFT PRIZE FOR EXCEPTIONAL PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IN HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY
Valerie Comenencia Ortiz '14

MYRA KRAFT PRIZE FOR SUPERIOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN THE STUDY OF HUMAN RIGHTS
Grace Bickers '14

Prizes in the Humanities

Presented by Professor Eugenia Lean, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

SENIOR THESIS PRIZE IN ART HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY
Shirlynn Sham '14

CHARLES PATERNO BARRATT-BROWN MEMORIAL PRIZE
Abigail Struhl '14

DINO BIGONGIARI PRIZE
Casey Ross '14

BUNNER PRIZE
Amalia Scott '14

DOUGLAS GARDNER CAVERLY PRIZE
Isabel Wiggans '14

EARLE PRIZE IN CLASSICS
Ridge Montes '15E

JOHN VINCENT HICKEY PRIZE
Bernardo Sarmiento Hinojosa '14

ADAM LEROY JONES PRIZE IN LOGIC
Daniel Listwa '15

HELEN AND HOWARD R. MARRARO PRIZE
Maria Gimenez de los Galanes Cavallo '14

BENJAMIN F. ROMAINE PRIZE FUND
Ridge Montes '15E

ERNEST STADLER PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE STUDY OF CLASSICAL ANTIQUITY
Abigail Fisch '14

DEUTSCHER VEREIN PRIZE IN GERMAN
Julia Slotnick '14

SUSAN HUNTINGTON VERNON PRIZE
Sophia Kitlinski '14

RICHMOND B. WILLIAMS TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIP
Catherine Chen '15
Brendan Donley '15
Luke Foster '15
Joseph Lee '15
Michael Menna '15

Prizes in the Creative and Performing Arts

Presented by Professor Susan Boynton, Department of Music

ACADEMY OF AMERICAN POETS POETRY PRIZE
Kate Gamble '14

KAREN OSNEY BROWNSTEIN WRITING PRIZE
Abigail Struhl '14

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS PRIZE IN ORATION
Informative: Oladayo Osuntokun '15
Persuasive: Mario Rosser '14

ARTHUR E. FORD POETRY PRIZE
Nai Liu '14

PHILOLEXIAN PRIZE FUND
Serena Solin '16
Kailee Pedersen '17

AUSTIN E. QUIGLEY PRIZE
Gabrielle Beans '14
Emily Sorensen '14

RICHARD AND BROOKE KAMIN RAPAPORT SUMMER MUSIC PERFORMANCE FELLOWSHIP
Corinna Boylan '15
Nathan Chan '15
Elias Dagher '15
Julia Danitz '15
Hannah Gorman '15
Vicente Hansen '15
Javier Llaca '15
Madeleine Tucker '15
Fifi Zhang '15
Yujin Ariza '16
Fernanda Douglas '16
Annalise Perricone '16
Paul Bloom '17
Samantha Bottom-Tanzer '17
Hannah Murphy '17
Yong Murray '17
Kaitlin Pet '17

LOUIS SUDLER PRIZE IN THE ARTS
Gustave Reed '14

MARIANA GRISWOLD VAN RENSSELAER PRIZE
Ethan Plaue '15

SEYMOUR BRICK MEMORIAL PRIZE
Esther Binstock '15
Chantal McStay '15

Senior Snapshots

The Class of 2014 is remarkable for its achievements and ambitions. Following are seven members' stories.

By Nathalie Alonso '08

PHOTOS: CHAR SMULLYAN

Onella Cooray Helps Consumers Make Healthful Choices

Onella Cooray '14 envisions a career in which she can help average consumers make healthful decisions for themselves and the planet. "There's so much information about sustainable living floating around," she says. "Not everyone has the time to sift through it or the knowledge to unpack it to see what actually goes into [the food] they eat and [the things they] use."

In her last semester, the self-professed foodie interned with Clean Plates, whose offerings — which include restaurant guides and a free app for Manhattan, Brooklyn and Los Angeles — direct consumers to sustainable, healthful and flavorful food sources. Though the company is based in Manhattan, Cooray mostly telecommuted thanks to the Center for Career Education's Virtual Internship Program. She both conducted research for the Clean Plates newsletter and contributed to a glossary of nutrition and sustainable food terms.

Previously, Cooray interned with GrowNYC, a nonprofit that operates more than 50 farmers' markets throughout the city. Once or twice a week from June 2013 through January 2014, she managed food stamp transactions at the Lincoln Hospital Greenmarket in the Bronx. Cooray also visited the hospital to encourage beneficiaries of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children — federal food assistance for low-income pregnant and breastfeeding women, and children ages 5 and under — to use their checks at the market "to buy fresh produce that is in season and probably less exposed to pesticides and chemicals," she says.

A Kluge Scholar from Colombo, Sri Lanka, Cooray was drawn to Columbia's emphasis on the liberal arts. After completing a concentration in environmental science, she opted for a second concentration in sustainable development to see "the social and human aspects of environmental issues." She had an "aha" moment when she took "Global Food Systems" as a sophomore. "I was aware of issues surrounding food, but I hadn't really considered pursuing that as a career," says Cooray, who during her first two years was a member of Columbia University EcoReps, a student group that works with Housing and Dining to make the campus more environmentally sustainable.

Cooray's most significant co-curricular activities, however, revolved around the International Students Orientation Program, a Student Affairs initiative that helps foreign students transition to the United States and the College. For Cooray, the friendships and insight she gained from the program were so vital that she volunteered as an ISOP orientation leader the next two years and was one of two paid student coordinators for ISOP 2013. She was recognized for her dedication to the program with a King's Crown Leadership Excellence Award. "ISOP was definitely one of my more important commitments and has brought me a great sense of accomplishment," says Cooray.

After graduation, Cooray will be an editorial consultant at Clean Plates before turning her attention to graduate school. For now she'd like to stay in the Big Apple, where she relishes the culinary scene. "I really enjoy good food and good ingredients," says Cooray. "So coming to New York City was just marvelous."



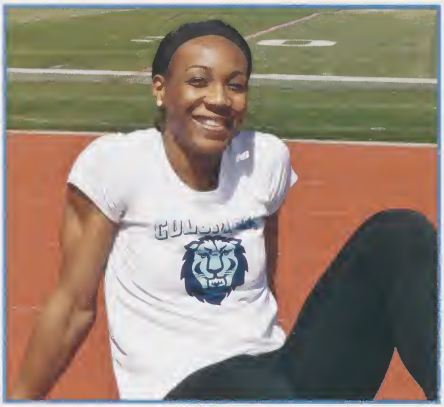
Onella Cooray '14

Marvellous Iheukwumere Runs Toward 2016 Olympics

The 2012 Ivy League Heptagonal Indoor Track and Field Championships occupy a special place in **Marvellous Iheukwumere '14**'s memories. The sprinter captured the first of her seven Ivy League titles at the event, hosted that year by Cornell, as she prevailed in the 200-meter dash and helped Columbia win the indoor championships for the first time.

"No matter where I am in life, that will always be something I helped accomplish at Columbia," says Iheukwumere, who was 9 when her family moved from her native Nigeria to Austin, Texas.

As a sophomore, Iheukwumere was named the 2012 Armory College Athlete of the Year for her indoor performance. As a junior, she won all the sprint titles in both the indoor and outdoor Ivy League championships and, at the NYU Team Challenge in January, won the 60-meter dash with a time of 7.46, breaking her own school record. She also received the 2014 Scholar Athlete Award and 2014 Arthur Ashe Sports Scholar Award.



Marvellous Iheukwumere '14

Excelling in track and field while carrying a full academic load required a balancing act, but Iheukwumere welcomed the challenge when she chose the College. "I wasn't interested in going to a school where my experience would just be centered on sports," she says. "I wanted to expand my academic horizons."

A psychology major, Iheukwumere received a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, awarded each spring to up to five sophomores from underrepresented backgrounds to prepare them for Ph.D. studies. For the remainder of their college career, fellows receive financial support and research training and engage with faculty. The fellowship allowed Iheukwumere to study the relationship between use of the drug ecstasy and cigarette smoking. She found a mentor in Associate Professor of Psychology Carl Hart, the program's faculty coordinator. "It was a great experience," says Iheukwumere. "It's really powerful to produce knowledge and tell people something new."

Eager to inspire others to pursue higher education, Iheukwumere mentored middle school students through Level the Field, a nonprofit started by Erica Woda '04 that connects youth in Washington Heights and East Somerville, Mass., with student-athletes from Columbia and Tufts. For six weeks each fall during her first three years, Iheukwumere visited the Washington Heights Expeditionary Learning School once a week to help students establish goals and teach them time management strategies and other skills. In turn, the students "taught me to continue to dream," says Iheukwumere, who as a senior recruited and trained fellow Columbians to serve as mentors for Level the Field.

Iheukwumere has pondered a career in the sports industry. Last summer, as an intern in the NBA's facilities and crisis management department, the Miami Heat fan helped devise security plans for various events, including the NBA Draft. After graduation, she will work full-time at the NBA in one of its Associate Programs as well as focus on running with the goal of representing either the United States or Nigeria in the 2016 Olympics. "I don't see that I'm done yet," Iheukwumere says of her running. "I really want to push my potential and get to the ultimate stage of competing."

Luisa Lizoain Uses College Experience for Urban Exploration

Given **Luisa Lizoain '14**'s primary reason for choosing the College — "I was excited about the cultural opportunities New York City provided," she says — it's no surprise that her favorite memories of the Core are the supplemental outings. "When I took Lit Hum, we got tickets to see *Sleep No More* [an interactive retelling of *Macbeth*]; that was definitely a highlight," says Lizoain, who also relished her Art Hum-related visits to the Met.

Lizoain, who majored in urban studies with a focus in sustainable development, also used her time at the College to explore other cities. She spent eight weeks during summer 2012 as an intern at ClearWorld Media, a social media consulting group in Beijing, through Columbia Experience Overseas, a program of the Center for Career Education. ClearWorld Media uses social media to raise awareness about environmental issues and promote its clients. Lizoain managed Facebook, Twitter and other social media accounts for two of the company's projects, Climate Action and Upcycling, which encourage individuals to reduce their carbon footprints and limit waste. "It was interesting to learn how companies like these [generate] the content they post," says Lizoain. "I hadn't really thought about online branding in that way."

Lizoain spent the Spring 2013 semester at the School of Land and Environment at the University of Melbourne, where she took four courses. She particularly enjoyed "Cities: From Local to Global," an urban planning course that involved excursions to the suburbs of Melbourne to study the use of space and to get local residents' perspectives on what they liked and disliked about their neighborhoods. "The field work forced me to pay attention to elements of the landscape that I might ordinarily take for granted," says Lizoain.

A movie buff who enjoys all genres, Lizoain initially thought

to major in film. Instead, she pursued her interest through electives and the Ferris Reel Film Society, a student group that organizes on-campus screenings for Columbia students for free or at discounted prices. This year, Lizoain, who became president of the group as a junior, helped arrange advanced screenings of *Don Jon* at the 84th Street AMC Theater and of the mid-season premiere of the USA Network drama *Suits* in Roone Arledge Auditorium. The latter included a Q&A with cast members.

"There's a sense of community when students are watching the movies [and TV shows] together; that's been really rewarding," says Lizoain, who was honored as a Senior Marshal. The Toronto native also volunteered with the Global Recruitment Committee beginning in her sophomore year, was an orientation leader for the New Student Orientation Program 2011–13 and co-chaired the 2014 Senior Dinner.

In her last semester, Lizoain interned in the film and television division of Random House, where she evaluated the potential of book manuscripts for motion picture adaptation. In the short term, she plans to pursue a career in film or television production, but has not ruled out attending graduate school for urban studies. "I love them both," she says.



Luisa Lizoain '14

Darpan Patel Researches Cancer Cell Death Mechanisms

Guaranteed research funding made the College an easy choice for **Darpan Patel '14.** A biology major, he was among the select few admitted to the I.I. Rabi Scholars Program as incoming first-years on the basis of "exceptional promise in the sciences." As a Rabi Scholar, Patel received stipends and free housing for three summers while he researched cell death mechanisms with Associate Professor of Biological Sciences and Chemistry Brent Stockwell.

Broadly speaking, Patel's research sought ways to kill cancer cells while avoiding the recurrence of the disease seen with conventional therapies. Most current treatments work by inducing a naturally occurring mechanism known as apoptosis, or programmed cell death. "The problem is that cancers eventually develop resistance to apoptosis," says Patel, whose experiments involved using small molecules — potential treatments — in attempts to destroy cancer cells through non-apoptotic means.

Each fall, as required by the program, Patel shared his summer work with his fellow scholars at the Rabi Scholars Program Annual Research Symposium. "What I really liked about the Rabi program is that it brought me into contact with people from many disciplines," says Patel, who received the Bridges and Sturtevant Prize in Biological Sciences, awarded every year to a graduating senior for "highly original and fruitful" research.



Darpan Patel '14

In his senior year, Patel worked with Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Hazel May to lay the groundwork for an intergenerational mentoring program for Rabi Scholars. He held biweekly office hours during which he fielded questions from first- and second-year Rabi Scholars about life as an undergraduate researcher. He also gave talks to underclassmen on such topics as scientific writing and finding the right lab to work in. "It's helpful for them to think about these things early on so they can gauge for themselves whether they are having the best research experience possible," says Patel, who grew up in Morrisville, N.C.

Patel hopes to make the mentoring program available to all Columbia undergraduate science students. He is working toward that goal by continuing his research in Stockwell's lab as well as applying to M.D./Ph.D. programs. In the long run, Patel sees himself as a professor of clinical oncology at a research hospital or medical school. Accordingly, once a week during the spring 2014 semester, he volunteered at the Beth Israel Cancer Center, where he evaluated proposals for clinical trials and shadowed doctors. "I wanted to get an inroad into how clinical research is done, especially cancer clinical trials, and, more generally, get a better notion of how cancer patient-doctor interactions work," says Patel.

Also in his last semester, Patel gave lectures and created study guides as a teaching assistant for "Molecular Biology," co-taught by James Manley, the Julian Clarence Levi Professor of the Life Sciences, and Jennifer Punt, assistant professor of pathology and cell biology at the Columbia Medical Center. "I learned an astronomical amount during the last semester, just in terms of how differently people think about [scientific] problems and how valuable that is," Patel says.

Kai Schultz Pursues Law, Writing and Human Rights



Kai Schultz '14

From a nonprofit internship to literary research to extracurricular activities, **Kai Schultz '14** used his time in the College to explore LGBT issues from a variety of angles.

Among his most informative experiences, he says, was an internship with the American Civil Liberties Union's LGBT and AIDS/HIV Project in the spring of his sophomore year, which entailed summarizing legal cases the nonprofit was considering for representation. He also was involved with the organization's "Don't Filter Me" project, which aimed to stop public schools from using web filtering software that blocks access to sites containing positive LGBT-related information. His experience at the ACLU "solidified my interest in going to law school," says Schultz, who now is a paralegal at a boutique securities litigation firm in Manhattan.

An English major, Schultz spent summer 2013 in London, where he conducted research on homoeroticism in Matthew Lewis' *The Monk* and other 18th-century Gothic texts. He studied one of Lewis' unfinished manuscripts, *The Effusions of Sensibility*, at the Victoria and Albert Museum. "[*The Monk*] treats homosexuality in more careful terms compared to its depiction of other transgressive sexualities," says Schultz, who concluded that "Lewis was thinking carefully about how to inscribe homoeroticism into the text without specifically calling attention to something that resonated in his personal life."

A $4,000 Richmond B. Williams Traveling Fellowship, awarded by the Department of English and Comparative Literature to English majors in their junior year, covered Schultz's travel and living expenses. While in London, Schultz started the website Let Me Speak (letmespeakproject.com), where he showcases "the diversity of queer life in urban spaces" through interviews with members of the LGBT community. He now conducts interviews with LGBT New Yorkers. "It's been a great way to meet people and to develop my writing in other ways," says Schultz.

Schultz, whose long-term plan is to "combine my interests in law, writing and human rights," was president of the Columbia chapter of Amnesty International in his senior year. The student group organizes events such as speaker panels and film screenings that are centered on a semester-long theme — for Spring 2014, it was transgender awareness — and other human rights issues espoused by Amnesty International.

Schultz, who grew up in the Phoenix suburb of Gilbert and now calls Scottsdale home, was drawn to the Core and New York City. In his first year, he joined the Undergraduate Recruitment Committee and began leading campus tours and hosting prospective students through the Lunch and Overnight Visits program and Days on Campus. As a URC member, he also interviewed prospective students in conjunction with the Alumni Representative Committee.

Schultz was a member of the URC Advisory Board in his senior year, during which he was responsible for coordinating all campus tours. "You learn to articulate your thoughts much better when you are in front of a group of people and have to talk about the school," says Schultz of his experience as a tour guide. "It's definitely one of the activities I'm going to miss the most."

Finn Vigeland Has the Right Word for Just About Anything

Finn Vigeland '14 was just a few weeks into his College career when, in October 2010, *The New York Times* published one of his crosswords. Though he attained at an early age what is considered the holy grail of crossword puzzling — and he's had two more puzzles published in the *Times* since — Vigeland is hardly complacent. "It's fun to try to get a word or phrase in that hasn't appeared in the *Times* puzzle," he says.

Vigeland, who was born in Buffalo, N.Y., and grew up in Westchester, first submitted a crossword to the *Times* in 2008. Crossword editor Will Shortz rejected it but suggested ways to improve the puzzle and invited Vigeland to compete in the Westchester Crossword Puzzle Tournament. Shortz organizes the annual event, followed by a reception at his area home.

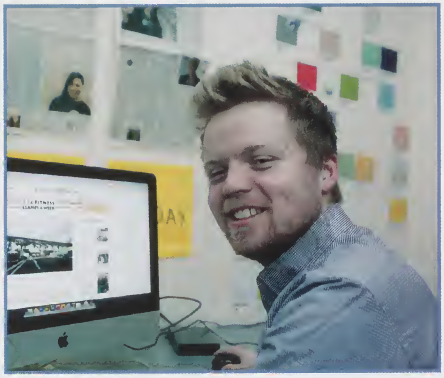
Vigeland's interest in crosswords began in earnest when he saw *Wordplay*, a 2006 documentary about the American Crossword Puzzle Tournament, which was founded by Shortz in 1978. (Vigeland has twice competed in the event, most recently in March, when he finished 246th among 580 competitors.) The DVD extras, which include interviews with crossword constructors, inspired Vigeland to create his own puzzles. "It's important to have an aesthetic grid but it's very much a science of getting interlocking letters to fall into place," says Vigeland, who also has had a crossword published in *The New York World*, the Journalism School's online newspaper, and another in *Twenty Under 30*, a collection of puzzles by constructors under the age of 30.

Up until his last semester, when he was not in class or constructing a puzzle — his collection of unpublished crosswords is "sizeable" — Vigeland often could be found in the *Spectator* office, where he was managing editor for a year beginning in

December 2012. "It's mind-blowing to me that at the ages of 20 and 21, I was responsible for something I like to think had a big impact on people's lives around campus and around the city," says Vigeland, who as city news editor in 2012 reported from President Barack Obama '83's election night rally in Chicago.

An urban studies major who chose the College largely because of the Core, Vigeland envisions a career in transportation planning. As a historical franchise intern last summer with the New York City Department of Transportation, he helped digitize the city's centuries-old utility company contracts for internal use. Using his knowledge of geographic information systems, he laid the groundwork for a database that allows users to search for contracts by keyword or by clicking on a map of the city.

A biking enthusiast, Vigeland hopes to find work that allows him to build upon the alternative transportation initiatives enacted by the Bloomberg administration. "I really think [they] moved the city in the positive direction of promoting more cycling and walking and less reliance on cars," says Vigeland. "I would love to work in a field that allows me to promote these policies and make them better."



Finn Vigeland '14

Kalena Zimmerman Spreads the Columbia Gospel to Hawaii

As she was planning Perspectives in Diversity and Days on Campus this spring as co-chair and programming coordinator for the Multicultural Recruitment Committee (MRC), **Kalena Zimmerman '14** paused to reflect on her time in the College. "I've come full circle, as these are the programs that got me to pick Columbia," she says.

As an incoming student, Zimmerman traveled from her hometown of Hilo, Hawaii, for the overnight visit programs, held each April. "I really enjoyed the atmosphere," recalls Zimmerman, a Kluge Scholar. "I wanted to experience four years in a place where I didn't know anyone and I would have to find myself."

As a member of MRC, Zimmerman also interviewed prospective students in collaboration with the Alumni Representative Committee (ARC) and contributed to a college application guide expected to be available online to the Class of 2019. Designed with first-generation students in mind, it includes a timeline. "The idea is to spread everything out so they know what is coming," says Zimmerman, the first member of her household to go to college.



Kalena Zimmerman '14

From November 2012 until she graduated, Zimmerman also was an outreach intern with the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, which entailed corresponding with prospective students and leading campus tours and information sessions for groups from local schools and community organizations. Zimmerman, who is part native Hawaiian on her mother's side, contributed to recruitment efforts by helping to establish relationships with community organizations that reach indigenous populations in her home state.

Zimmerman was a liaison between Admissions and two student groups: Mālama Hawaii and the Native American Council. As a junior, she helped revive the former, which celebrates the islands' culture through an annual luau and other activities. During her first three years in the College, Zimmerman also helped plan and promote the Native American Council's annual Powwow and Native American Heritage Month.

Strengthening the Native American and native Hawaiian communities at Columbia "has been my biggest goal here," says Zimmerman, who as a senior mentored a Native American student raised in Hawaii through the Columbia Mentoring Initiative, a program of the Office of Multicultural Affairs that pairs first-years with upperclassmen. She received a King's Crown Leadership Excellence Award for her support of current and prospective students and for fostering a "diverse, tolerant, and inclusive community" on campus.

Zimmerman, who also was honored as a Senior Marshal, majored in East Asian languages and cultures and wrote her senior thesis on tourism marketing techniques in Hawaii, Japan and South Korea. Among her favorite memories of her College years is writing a paper for Art Hum on Pieter Bruegel's *The Harvesters* while sitting in front of the painting at the Met. "I loved that Columbia allows students to learn from the city," she says.

Zimmerman plans to return to Hawaii to share her knowledge of college admissions with indigenous and first-generation high school students. "I want to work with students to give them the opportunities I was given," she says.

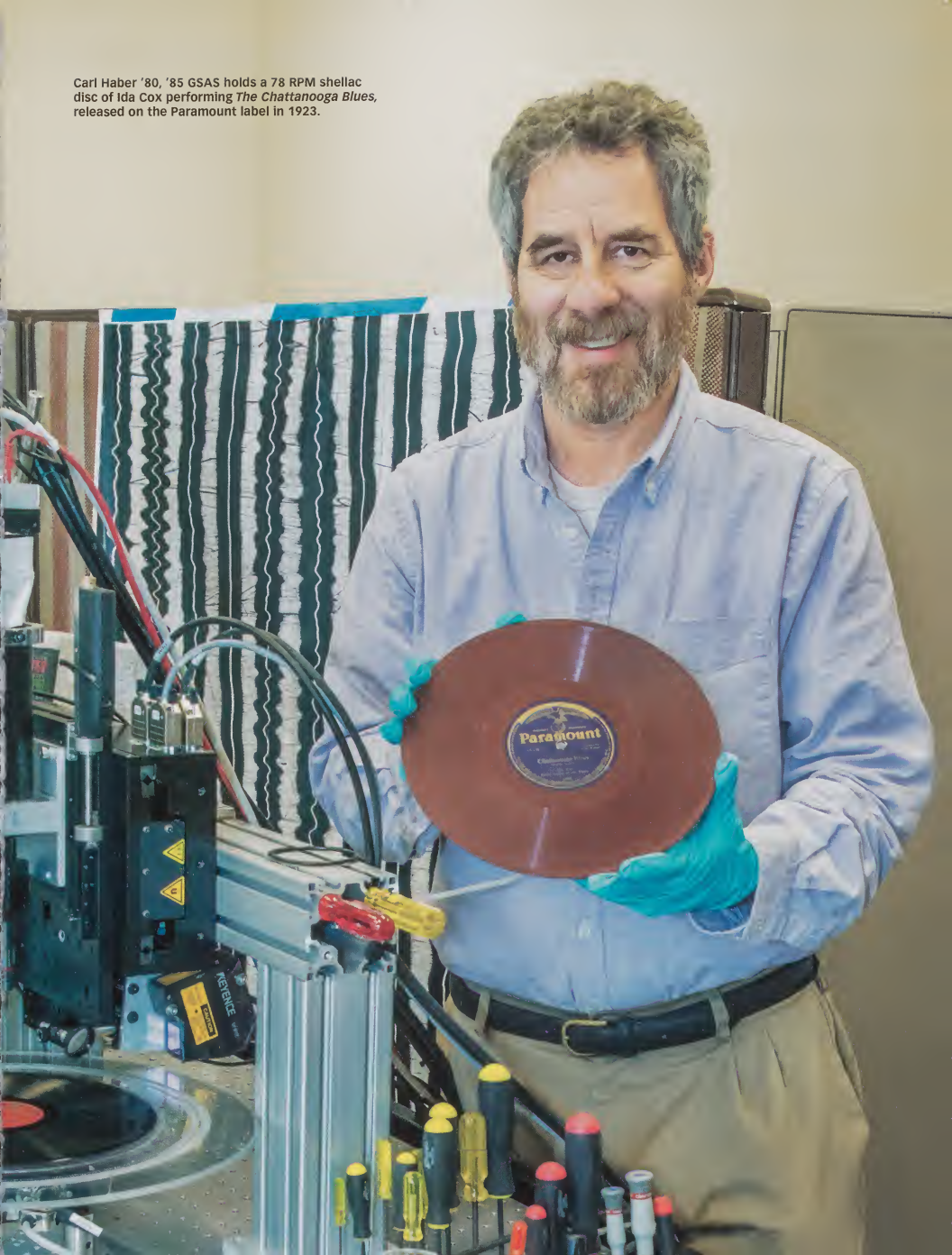
In the Groove

Particle physicist Carl Haber '80, '85 GSAS preserves sounds of the past

By David McKay Wilson

PHOTOS: BERKELEY LAB - ROY KALTSCHMIDT





Carl Haber '80, '85 GSAS holds a 78 RPM shellac disc of Ida Cox performing *The Chattanooga Blues,* released on the Paramount label in 1923.

Particle physicist Carl Haber '80, '85 GSAS was listening to National Public Radio one day in 2000 when he heard Grateful Dead percussionist Mickey Hart discussing the problems inherent in audio preservation. Many early 20th-century recordings used primitive technology, with the sound etched in media such as wax cylinders, metal or shellac, and had become so fragile that playing one with a stylus could destroy the historical artifact.

Haber, whose day job has him designing instrumentation that detect the positions of sub-atomic particles to an accuracy of a few thousandths of a millimeter, wondered if he might adapt those imaging techniques to read the hills and valleys of sound encoded in the grooves of those centuries-old surfaces.

"I just thought: We've been doing optical measurements in the lab, which were ultra-clean, ultra-precise, and done with light and imaging," says Haber, a senior scientist at the federal Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, located adjacent to UC Berkeley, where he has worked since doing his post-doctoral work in physics there in 1985. "I decided to investigate the scale of measurement needed."

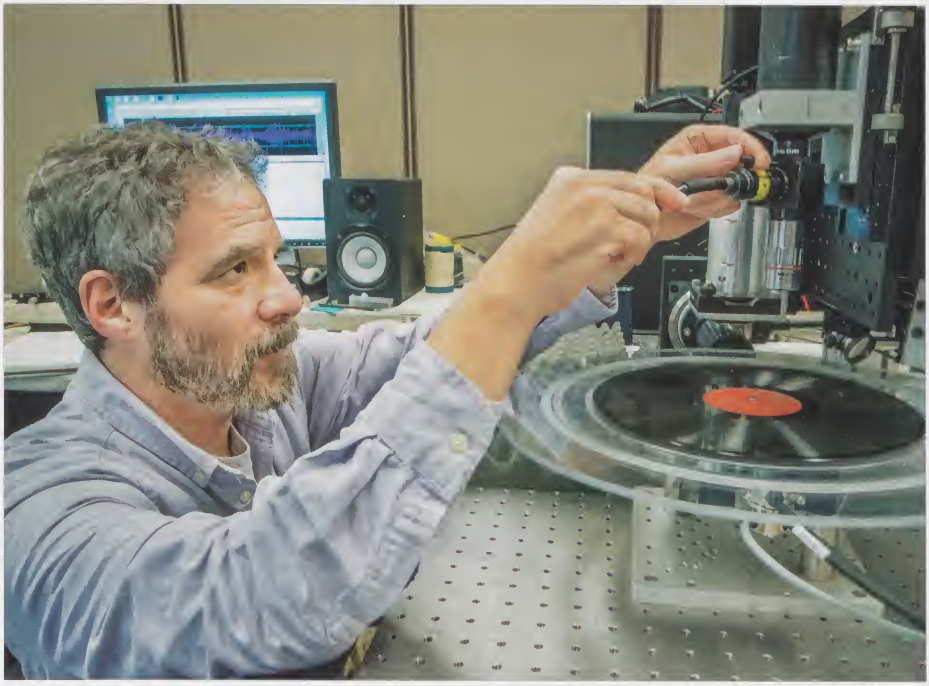
At a used book store, Haber found the classic text *Acoustical Engineering*, by Harry Olson, a pioneer of acoustical engineering, which confirmed that an imaging instrument in his lab was precise enough for the task. Then he did some moonlighting with a colleague, Vitaliy Fadeyev, to determine if the images could be translated into sound.

By 2002, they were ready. It was time to see if digital maps — gleaned from the surfaces of the recordings without contact — could produce genuine sound. Fadyev wrote a program to scan a few revolutions of a shellac disc, taking the analog version of the music and creating a digital data file that could be converted into sound. The test case: a 78 rpm pressing of the Weavers' 1950s hit, *Goodnight, Irene*.

"It was one of those moments," Haber recalls. "It actually worked!"

Haber's manner of retrieving sound from old recordings was a breakthrough in the field of audio restoration. His technology, developed in association with the Library of Congress, has since proved successful in helping bring to life sound from the oldest known recording of the human voice, made 154 years ago. It also worked to reveal the only known recording of Alexander Graham Bell's voice and to reconstruct the voices and instrumentation that were embedded in tinfoil in 1878 by a machine developed by Thomas Edison — the oldest recording of an American voice. The technology can also mitigate damage to recordings, helping to produce clearer sound.

Haber's first trial took an hour of measurement to produce



It is estimated that up to one million recordings could benefit from the technology Haber developed.

one second of sound. He and Berkeley Lab colleague Earl Cornell subsequently created a scanning device called IRENE — Image, Reconstruct, Erase Noise, Etc. — to make the process more efficient. Twelve years later the technology has progressed significantly, enabling the development of optical scanning systems that cost about $200,000. Such systems are now used in Berkeley, the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., and the Roja Muthiah Research Library in Chennai, India. A scanning system was installed in December at the Northeast Document Conservation Center in Andover, Mass., which makes the technology available on a fee-for-service basis.

Haber's research received a huge boost in 2013, when he was tapped as one of 24 recipients of a $625,000 award through the MacArthur Foundation's MacArthur Fellows program. MacArthur fellows don't apply for the so-called "genius grants" but rather are selected for their work, and for the potential for developing it further, and are given an income stream of $125,000 a year for five years.

Archivists estimate that up to one million recordings could benefit from the technology, with the sounds transferred into digital files. They include field recordings of linguistic and cultural importance, primary recordings of musicians and poets, speeches by historical figures, radio broadcasts, public and private dictation, and recordings made by world leaders.

Haber recalled the day he got the call of a lifetime from the MacArthur Foundation. It came three weeks before the award, as the foundation prepared its promotional materials.

"I really didn't know what to say when I got the call," he says. "All I could think of was what fun the person making the calls was having. It was the opposite of a parking meter officer. Instead of ruining someone's day, that person was making mine."

Haber's manner of retrieving sound from old recordings was a breakthrough in the field of audio restoration. His technology, developed in association with the Library of Congress, has since proved successful in bringing to life sound from the oldest known recording of the human voice, made 154 years ago.

Haber, who grew up in Flushing, Queens, entered the Engineering School in 1976, thinking that he might want to design prosthetic devices for amputees. But that all changed after taking a Core Curriculum class taught by a doctoral candidate who was studying the epistemology of quantum theory. Haber became enthralled by this area of physics, which explores the physical behaviors of matter at the molecular, atomic and sub-atomic levels.

He started reading quantum theory on the side, and couldn't put it down. By the end of his freshman year, Haber was so enthralled by the subject that he transferred to the College to major in physics. That summer, he landed a job in the Columbia lab of a researcher who was carrying out experiments in the low-temperature properties of liquid helium.

There, he met Chien-Shiung Wu, a renowned physics professor. Wu took Haber under her wing, and he worked in her lab in the basement of Pupin Hall for three years as she conducted experiments in "parity violation effects," which showed that certain physical phenomena are not symmetric. Soon after earning his undergraduate degree, he began his graduate studies in physics at Columbia.

"I fell in with these people," Haber says of the department's students and faculty. "It was a hospitable place to be."

He continued to research under the tutelage of physics professor Michael Shaevitz, now the director of Columbia's Nevis Laboratories in Irvington, N.Y., who was his thesis adviser. By 1982, Haber was collaborating with Shaevitz on high-energy experiments at Fermilab, the federal research center in Batavia, Ill. Haber's thesis experiment involved the search for the transformations of neutrinos, which are subatomic particles that had been assumed to be massless, traveling at the speed of light.

"He was my first graduate student — and a really great student," says Shaevitz. "If there were some new idea, and I didn't understand it, I'd say, 'Hey, Carl, can you research that and write me a paper on it?'"

In the field of particle physics, Haber has made his name building instruments. While his graduate work focused on data analysis, his thesis project included the study of detectors used to measure the intensity of the neutrino beam at Fermilab.

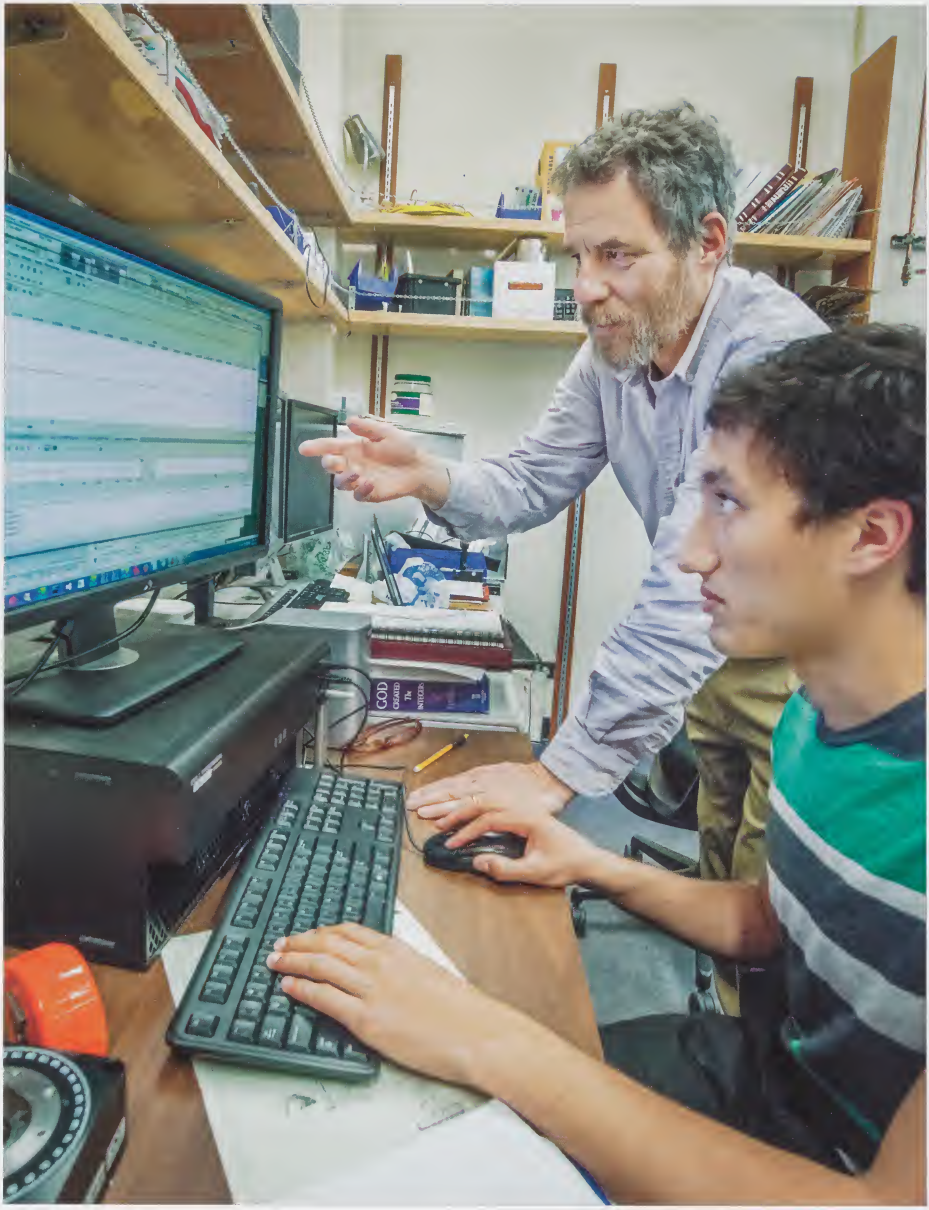
His experiment, however, did not locate the effect for which he was searching.

"Twenty years later, the effect was observed, but not in the region in which we were looking," he says. "It turns out, at very, very low energy, you could see it. We were just not looking in the right place. It's like if you were taking an opinion poll and you wanted to see how Republicans felt about an issue, you could be waiting for a very long time if you were asking in Berkeley. You should have been in Sacramento."

Haber headed west for his postdoctoral work, becoming the latest in a long line of Columbia physicists to go to Berkeley Lab. There, he joined a research team led by William Chinowsky '49, '55 GSAS and Bill Carithers, who had been a postdoctoral fellow at Columbia in the 1970s. Their team was working on developing a collider detector for Fermilab, which at the time was directed by Leon Lederman '51 GSAS, a former Columbia professor who shared the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1988.

Haber's team developed a device to track the trajectories of sub-atomic particles created in high-energy collisions. It was like a 3D camera that could create images of the particle tracks as they emerged from the collisions — at a precision of 10 microns, or 10 millionths of a meter. "Being able to obtain that level of precision was the starting point also for thinking about understanding grooved sound recordings, where the groove undulates again on a scale of microns encoding the recorded sound," says Haber.

Haber keeps in touch with his Columbia physics colleagues, including Shaevitz and professor Michael Tuts. Haber designed the invitation for the bar mitzvahs of both of Shaevitz's sons and, at Tuts' invitation, presented a colloquium on his audio preservation work at Columbia in late March.



Haber says he has an open mind as to ways in which the MacArthur grant will benefit his work.

Haber is collaborating with Tuts — and 3,000 other physicists from 178 institutions in 38 countries — on an experiment taking place at the CERN Large Hadron Collider near Geneva. Haber has helped design the system, which is 10 stories and uses silicon electronics to detect the sub-atomic particles that are set free by the collision of protons at close to the speed of light.

Tuts says that Haber maintains a steady hand in the high-stakes research. "He's very calm," says Tuts, "and he's very thoughtful in the tools he needs to develop."

Haber also visits the class of UC Berkeley Professor of Physics Saul Perlmutter, a colleague at Berkeley Lab, as a guest lecturer in his popular class on the physics of music. "There's a huge physics component to music," says Haber, "but there are also ideas of [personal artistic] expression."

In 2003 — when Haber first contacted the Library of Congress about his findings — audio preservationists had a limited range of options for the restoration of mechanical sound carriers. Discs or cylinders composed of shellac, wax, lacquer or metal, which were not otherwise too fragile or broken, could be played back with professional grade turntables and a range of styli and cartridges. An optical laser turntable existed but was useful mainly for vinyl LPs that were in very good condition.

Peter Alyea, a digital conversation specialist at the library, read Haber's paper explaining his breakthrough. Alyea's father was a physicist as well, so Alyea had an inkling of what Haber was developing.

There were concerns, however, among others at the library. While the institution had purchased tools to assist in its preservation work, it rarely supported research that would require designing a tool like the optical device Haber had proposed.

"It was worth the risk," Alyea says. "No one was building the tools we needed to solve our problem. There was no guarantee that Carl's idea would solve everything. But it seemed like it would be useful for frail and damaged recordings, and it could be used as a tool for analysis. The advantage was that if we hit any of these, it would be useful."

Haber says the MacArthur funding will help extend his work into areas not supported by his current grants, which are targeted at specific collections. "The MacArthur grant is spread across five years, so it can help with flexibility," he says. "I have an open mind. I don't know what other ideas will come up. I'll take it one step at a time."

Of particular interest to Haber are the Alexander Graham Bell-Volta Laboratory Collection at the Smithsonian, late 19th- and early 20th-century recordings made in the field by ethnographers who documented the folklore and language of Native Americans, and the Milman Parry Collection of 3,000 recordings from the former Yugoslavia, which includes songs, poetry and epic tales that were passed down through oral tradition.

Then there's Alan Lomax's vast collection of folk songs, recorded in the hills of Appalachia and in the Deep South during the 1930s, which are stored at the Library of Congress and at Columbia. Many of the recordings were etched into aluminum.

"There are huge amounts of stuff on discs and on cylinders," Haber says. "I want to develop a more systematic campaign to make the transfers."

Haber's emergence as a leader in the field of audio preservation, including historical musical recordings, combines his scientific prowess with his interest in the arts and his knack for building. At Columbia, he delved into both science and the arts. Even as he pursued his doctorate in physics, he continued studying in the School of the Arts under print-maker Robert Blackburn.

Haber's emergence as a leader in the field of audio preservation, including historical musical recordings, combines his scientific prowess with his interest in the arts and his knack for building.

In one of his art classes Haber caught the eye of an undergraduate, Elizabeth McCoy '83 Barnard, and they became friends. They went their separate ways upon her graduation, only to meet three years later in Berkeley; she'd moved back home after spending three years teaching English in the Central African Republic, and he was ensconced at Berkeley Lab. One day, in the heart of town, at the corner of Euclid and Hearst Avenues, their paths crossed. By 1998, they were married. They live in Berkeley with their children, Theodore (14) and Lena (12).

Haber likes to work with his hands, be it drawing on a sketch pad or working in his garage woodshop building cabinets and furniture for his family's home.

This winter the workshop was also a place to explore the world of sound and physics with Theodore, whose physics teacher assigned a project in which students were asked to build a musical instrument that played a scale in the key of C. Theodore turned to his father for help. First, Haber consulted with his brother-in-law, Roger Waxler '86 GSAS, a research scientist at the National Center for Physical Accoustics at Mississippi. Then Haber dug out another textbook by Olson, whose writings had served as a foundation for his audio preservation invention.

Haber and his son bought pieces of 1/8-inch aluminum, measured the lengths that would deliver the precise tone and mounted them. They struck the bars, which resonated in what they asserted was the C scale.

But the teacher sent the project back for revisions, saying the notes weren't in the right key. When Haber measured the bars' thickness, he discovered that the aluminum strips were actually 10 percent thinner than advertised, which had thrown off the calculations. They ground off two or three millimeters from each bar. They had their C scale.

"In these projects, you need to measure everything," Haber says. "We discovered physics actually works."

David McKay Wilson, *a public affairs columnist at* The Journal News *in White Plains, N.Y., has written for* Columbia College Today *and* TC Today *since 2007. His* CCT *stories have included profiles of U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, '76L and former New York Gov. David Paterson '77, and a look at the Class of 2015.*



Restaurateur Mauro Maccioni '95 prepares his family's famous pasta primavera — a dish invented by his father, Sirio, in 1975 — tableside during lunch at Osteria del Circo.
PHOTO: NATALIE KEYSSAR

A Savory Tradition

Mauro Maccioni '95, youngest son of "the first family of fine dining," keeps making food lovers smile

By Nathalie Alonso '08

It's lunchtime on a humid summer Tuesday and a suit-and-tied Mauro Maccioni '95 is seated in a harlequin-patterned chair in the dining room of Osteria del Circo, the Midtown West restaurant inspired by his mother Egidiana's Tuscan home cooking. He's been back from Italy for less than a day, but defies any jet lag to watch over the flow of service beneath a ceiling adorned with trapezes and silhouettes of simian acrobats. The whimsical décor continues the circus theme conceived by his father, Sirio, for the family's first venture, the renowned French restaurant Le Cirque.

With the elder Maccioni now in his 80s, Mauro and his older, NYU-educated brothers, Mario and Marco, have taken over the family business and expanded it into a global restaurant empire. In the process, they've turned the Maccionis into what celebrity chef Anne Burrell has called "the first family of fine dining." Although they run a much bigger operation, the brothers, like Sirio, pride themselves on being visible, hands-on restaurateurs who tend to all aspects of the business, from employee management to hosting and, in the case of the culinary-inclined Mauro, menu planning.

"When you put a smile on people's faces and they say, 'Ah, the food is great. I want to come back,' you can go home and sleep well. Your feet may be tired, but it's very satisfying," says Mauro, who was a toddler in 1974 when Le Cirque opened at the Mayfair Hotel on East 65th Street, and less than a year removed from the College when Circo opened in January 1996. The family's third New York City restaurant, Sirio Ristorante, opened in October 2012 at The Pierre hotel. Maccioni Restaurant Group also operates three restaurants in Las Vegas, two at the Casa de Campo resort in the Dominican Republic and a growing number of ventures in India and the United Arab Emirates. Holland America Line also offers the dining experience "An Evening at Le Cirque" on its cruise ships.

That the Maccioni brothers would become enamored of the restaurant business seems inevitable, especially for Mauro, whose formative years coincided with the heyday of Le Cirque. Back then, Frank Sinatra, Woody Allen, Richard Nixon, Jackie Onassis or Nancy and Ronald Reagan could drop in on any given night and order the house's signature paupiette of black bass. Many of Mauro's childhood Saturdays were spent serving coffee and refreshments to the restaurant's elite patrons.





The Maccionis at home (top, left to right, Mario, Mauro, Sirio, Egidiana and Marco) and at Le Cirque.

PHOTOS: TOP, COURTESY MAURO MACCIONI '95; BOTTOM, SABRINA WENDER

While Sirio has said he envisioned his sons becoming "a lawyer, a doctor and an architect," Mauro doesn't buy that his father wanted them to pursue other careers. "He always jokingly said, 'I didn't send you guys to NYU and Columbia for you to sell soup,'" says Mauro. "And then all three of us went into this business of selling soup — very good soup — but selling soup."

Born and raised in New York City, Mauro traces his passion for food not to Le Cirque but to a 1982 family trip to Europe. "After spending time in France, eating the croissants, the amazing butters and marmalades, I fell in love with food," says Mauro, then 10. His teenage memories include strolling into the Le Cirque kitchen after school with a basketball tucked under his arm and asking chef Daniel Boulud, now a world-renowned restaurateur, to make him a burger. Boulud, seafood guru Rick Moonen, Food Network personality Geoffrey Zakarian and chocolatier Jacques Torres are among the star chefs whose careers were launched at Le Cirque.

In contrast with his sons' upbringing, Sirio, recipient of the 2014 James Beard Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award, was orphaned by 12. He supported his sister and grandmother by working at a hotel in his Tuscan hometown of Montecatini Terme. Sirio later worked in prestigious hotel restaurants throughout Europe before taking a job on a New York-bound cruise ship in 1956. In the 1960s, he made a name for himself as the maître d' at The Colony, a Manhattan café society restaurant with an A-list clientele. When The Colony closed in 1971, Sirio decided to open his own restaurant, which he named Le Cirque — French for "the circus."

Among the patrons who became fixtures at Le Cirque was the late pioneering television executive Roone Arledge '52, a University trustee who was also an occasional guest at the Maccioni home. "He knew I would be going to college soon and he would tell me, 'You should go to Columbia,'" says Mauro, for whom "being in the city and being able to attend such a pres-



Maccioni reviews the dishes of the day with Osteria del Circo's executive chef, Alfio Longo.
PHOTO: NATALIE KEYSSAR

At each restaurant, and in particular at Les Crayères, Mauro devoted some days to learning the nuances of being a host and running a dining room. It was the kitchen, however, where he spent most of his time.

tigious Ivy League school" made the College an obvious choice.

Mauro lived at home on the Upper East Side and drove to campus — "I'm Italian; I'm a mama's boy," he says — though he occasionally crashed with his fraternity brothers at the Kappa Delta Rho house. He also spent considerable time at Dodge Fitness Center playing basketball. Even during his College years, however, Mauro devoted many nights and weekends to Le Cirque. He often would sit in budget meetings, but it was the food aspect that captivated him.

On his own initiative, Mauro spent his college summers in Italy and France, honing his skills through *stages*, or culinary internships, at such Michelin-starred restaurants as Enoteca Pinchiorri in Florence, Les Crayères in Reims and the Hôtel Ritz in Paris. In 2001, he spent a month under chef Juan Mari Arzak's tutelage at Arzak in San Sebastian, Spain, the first restaurant in the Iberian country awarded three Michelin stars.

At each restaurant, and in particular at Les Crayères, Mauro devoted some days to learning the nuances of being a host and running a dining room. It was the kitchen, however, where he spent most of his time. He describes his role as being "an extra pair of hands," and was often asked to help prepare for service in the mornings by chopping carrots and onions. "As I did that kind of work, I was able to see the plating," says Mauro, who also gained experience at the various kitchen stations, including salads and hot and cold appetizers.

Mauro continues to cultivate his knowledge of Italian cuisine through trips abroad. "I travel throughout Italy to eat at anywhere from three-star Michelin restaurants in Milan to simple *trattorias* [informal restaurants] in Tuscany — all different styles from high to low," he says.

Given his culinary experience, Mauro acts as an in-house food consultant at Circo, working with the chef to design and adjust the menu, plan specials and decide on new ingredients. "Mauro knows more about what food should look and taste like than any of us," says Mario, the eldest of the brothers. "If he has a strength, it would definitely be the food."

Mauro's love of food has long been evident to chef Cesare Casella of New York City's Salumeria Rosi Parmacotto; an authority on Tuscan cuisine, he has known the Maccionis for more than 30 years. Casella notes that of the brothers, Mauro is the most in touch with his Tuscan roots. "His passion was not only to be a restaurateur like his father but also to be knowledgeable about food

and international cuisine. He respects simplicity and has great respect for the food that he provides to his customers."

Mauro also has a reputation for sparing no efforts when he cooks for friends and family, including his 8-year-old daughter, Stella. "You would think a guy who works in a restaurant five or six days a week, on his day off, the last thing he would want to do is cook. But that's what he does," says Mario, who praises Mauro's seafood pastas and marvels at the time his youngest brother will devote to stuffing calamari or zucchini blossoms. "He goes crazy, makes a huge mess and everyone has a great meal."

Mauro grew up playing with dough and making sundaes with Marisa May, daughter of Tony May, the Italian restaurateur behind former New York institution San Domenico. The father-daughter team currently owns SD26 near Madison Square Park, a modern spin-off of their original restaurant. "If Mauro cooks for me and other friends, it's always Italian, not French," says Marisa May. "He realizes what authentic Italian flavors are and which ingredients are top-of-the-line, which is extremely important when you are cooking Italian food because it's not worked like French food, where you simmer sauces for hours."

When it came to burgers, May notes, Mauro's taste was not limited to those made by Boulud: "If we were allowed to, we would love to go to McDonald's and have quarter pounders with cheese, which would make our parents pull out their hair."

Mauro eases into a typical work day with a cappuccino at Circo around 10 a.m., followed by an informal meeting with the chef. Most days he devotes entirely to Circo. Other days, after touching base with Circo's general manager and checking reservations, he'll spend the early afternoon assessing things at Sirio, Le Cirque or both. Still an avid basketball player, if he's not spending time with Stella after school, he's at the gym shooting hoops before returning to one of the three restaurants for dinner service.

The responsibilities among the Maccioni brothers are divided in a way that, in Mauro's words, keeps them "out of each other's hair." While Mauro is hands-on at Circo and plays a supervisory role at Sirio, Marco is more focused on Le Cirque. Until recently, Mario lived in Las Vegas and oversaw the family's restaurants there. "It is quite a headache," says Mauro of running a business with his parents and siblings. "It does compromise the family relationships, but we all love each other very much and we make it work. It is not an easy thing. Sometimes my brothers and I see things quite differently."

Each of the brothers has carved a niche within the business. Mario considers himself "back-of-the-house and employee-oriented," while Marco's forte is service and wine programs. The culinary side is Mauro's territory. "Mauro is side by side with the chefs of all these restaurants, not trying to micromanage them but definitely having his input," says Mario.

Keeping the Maccioni brand current while preserving Le Cirque is part and parcel of the brothers' challenge. The restaurant enjoyed its prime at a time when New York City's dining scene was much smaller, and now faces competition from the city's seemingly endless food options. Le Cirque no longer draws most of its patrons from the upper echelon of society but Mauro believes its diners still seek the luxury associated with classic French fine dining. "If I was a customer, I'd go to all the other trendier places for variations on tuna and things like that. Le Cirque, for me, is about caviar and champagne, Dover sole and soufflé," says Mauro. Nonetheless, he recognizes the need to adapt to a changing culinary industry. "It's difficult to maintain that 'edge' with the journalists, the media and customers. We think we do a pretty good job at it. We go around. We visit all the restaurants. We're pretty involved trying to keep the younger edge."

The balancing act manifests itself at Le Cirque's latest incarnation, at the Bloomberg Building on East 58th Street, where it relocated in 2006. (After shuttering its original location in 1996, the restaurant operated as Le Cirque 2000 at the Villard Houses in the Palace Hotel 1997–2004.) Jackets and an ample budget are still required in Le Cirque's main dining room, but not at the adjoining Le Cirque Café, which according to Mauro, "is based on the principle of a simpler presentation of food at a more moderate price point."

Keeping the Maccioni brand current while preserving Le Cirque is part and parcel of the brothers' challenge.

May underscores how difficult yet crucial it is for a restaurateur in Mauro's position to strike the right balance between tradition and innovation. "He had to reinvent his father's concept, like I had to at SD26," she says. "Taking the torch and taking it to another level and bringing in a new generation — but not forgetting the past — is what helps him be such a successful restaurateur."

The Maccionis' willingness to evolve with the industry is evidenced by a foray into reality television. The family accepted a proposal to conduct a search for an executive chef for Circo Abu Dhabi, expected to open later this year, on the Food Network show *Chef Wanted with Anne Burrell*; each episode features four contestants competing for a position at a different top restaurant. Mauro represented his family in their episode, which aired in August 2013. "The industry has changed; I've gotten a lot of feedback from people who saw the show. They recognize me," he says. "Not that I'm a star now, but for business it definitely makes a difference, puts you on the map. It helps the brand."

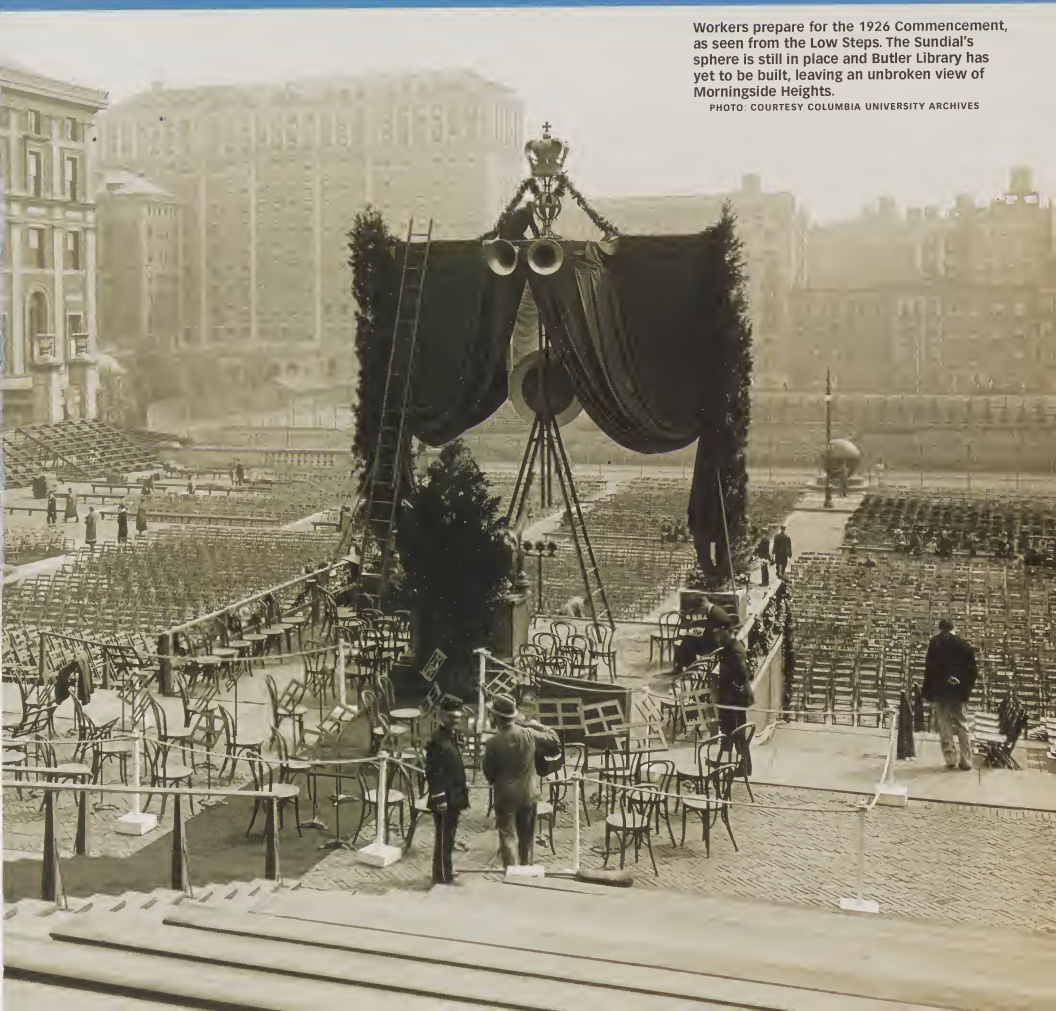
Mauro's "all-in" approach to the restaurant business, whether he's in front of a camera, designing a menu or observing service from a back table at Circo, has earned him the praise of his family. "There are people who do this because they have to do it and they want to bring home a paycheck," says Mario. "[Mauro] really throws himself into it — both food and marketing. He eats it up. He's very passionate. Not to say that the rest of us aren't passionate, but he's the one who gets all bent out of shape when something isn't right."

For someone who once advised his children to pursue other paths, Sirio lauds his youngest son's passion. "Mauro is good because he's never happy," says Sirio. "He's always after the chefs: 'We should do more, we should do this.' And that's how a really good restaurant guy should be."

Nathalie Alonso '08, *from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball's official Spanish language website. She writes "Student Spotlight" for* CCT.

Alumni News

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Workers prepare for the 1926 Commencement, as seen from the Low Steps. The Sundial's sphere is still in place and Butler Library has yet to be built, leaving an unbroken view of Morningside Heights.

PHOTO: COURTESY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES



At Reunion and Dean's Day, Alumni Reconnect and Reminisce

Nearly 1,500 alumni caught up with old friends and relived their classroom experience at Alumni Reunion Weekend and Dean's Day 2014

By Lisa Palladino



Almost 1,500 College alumni and more than 700 guests returned to campus and to venues throughout New York City May 29–June 1 for Alumni Reunion Weekend and Dean's Day 2014. Gathering this year were classes that end in 4 and 9, and all alumni were invited to Saturday's Dean's Day, which offered Talks Across Campus and Mini-Core Courses that recreated the educational experience that bonds all alumni.

Among the weekend's other highlights were class-specific panels, receptions and dinners; the Young Alumni Party aboard the *U.S.S. Intrepid;* Dean James J. Valentini's Continental Breakfast and Address; and two perennial favorites, the Wine Tasting and the Starlight Reception. At Valentini's address, Jonathan Sobel '88 was presented the President's Cup, awarded annually to an alumnus/a for contributions to his or her class' reunion the previous year. Sobel co-chaired his 25th Reunion Committee.

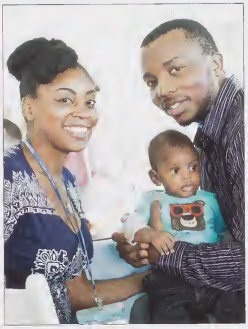
Gifts to the Columbia College Fund are an important part of reunion, and as of June 6, the Class of 1964 was on the verge of $6 million in gifts and pledges, which would tie it with the Class of 1963 for a 50th reunion record, and the Class of 1989 was approaching its goal of 70 John Jay Associate-level donors ($1,500 or more), which if reached would set a record for leadership gifts in a 25th reunion.

To view more photos from Alumni Reunion Weekend, Dean's Day and the Young Alumni Party as well as to view class photos and to read the list of Dean's Pins recipients, go to Web Extras at college.columbia.edu/cct.













Opposite: The Young Alumni Party aboard the *U.S.S. Intrepid;* a proud member of the 50th reunion class. This page, clockwise from top left: Dean James J. Valentini addresses members of the Class of 1989 at a dinner; catching up during Saturday lunch on South Lawn; many weekend attendees bring their families; Professor Susan Pedersen lectures on the League of Nations; balloons and banners festoon campus; mugging for the camera at an outdoor photo booth before the Starlight Reception.

PHOTOS: SCOTT RUDD/ SCOTTRUDDEVENTS.COM

MESSAGE FROM CCAA PRESIDENT KYRA TIRANA BARRY '87

Looking Back and Looking Ahead

As alumni, or former students as Dean James J. Valentini often calls us, many of us share a desire to advocate for current students to ensure that their Columbia experiences are as meaningful as ours were. This support takes many forms. Many of us volunteer as a way to connect with students and stay up to date on campus life and activities. However, another, and even easier, way to support current students is simply to take an interest in their lives — read *Spectator* or browse through stories on Bwog.

In the Spring 2014 *CCT* we were treated to an in-depth look at the Varsity Show; the issue was rich with stories of former and current students, and it helped connect alumni to life on campus. For this issue, let's shift our focus to athletics. At the final Board of Directors meeting of the 2012–14 term, Director of Athletics M. Dianne Murphy briefed us on CU athletics and challenged board members to a trivia contest, with Columbia Blue gear as prizes. For us proud alumni, it was a fun way to test how vigilant we have been about staying up to date on student news. I am happy to offer the same opportunity to you, and the first four alumni who can correctly name these four teams will also win Columbia Blue gear (send your answers to ccalumni@columbia.edu).

- Which Columbia team has won the Ivy League Championship three of the last seven seasons?
- Which Columbia team this year became the second in Ivy League history to move to the round of 16 in the NCAA tournament?
- Which Columbia team finished its dual meet season 7–0, compiling its first undefeated dual meet season?
- Which team has the most all-time Ivy League championships in its sport (second is Penn/Princeton with 14)?

Another important area for undergraduates is the Center for Student Advising (CSA). Dean Monique Rinere reviewed the recent four-year report with the board and it's safe to say that the CSA — and our alumni, who volunteer their time — provide an invaluable resource to students. We are proud of the progress the College is making in this area. The adviser/advisee ratio at the CSA has been reduced and the program is consistently reaching and serving more students in a meaningful way. The CSA has done a remarkable job recognizing and being responsive to the changing needs of students. The CCAA board will remain involved with CSA so that we can achieve the excellence that Columbians expect and deserve in this important area.

While many of us want to know how we can better advocate for current students, I have spent the past three years pondering a similar thought: How can the CCAA better support and advocate for *you*? The goal seemed simple enough — find out what alumni want and give it to them. But what *do* we want? As is typically the case, the answer proved to be much more complex than the question. The more alumni we talked to, the more different answers we heard. We realized that — in true Columbia form — we are an incredibly diverse group! We want different things — from the simplest aspect of alumni engagement to the most complex — partly because of who we are, but also because of where we live, what stage of life we are in and how Columbia College had an impact on us.

As the board continues to ask questions and collect responses, we know that we will need to become more dynamic and responsive, and include more alumni volunteers in our expanding network. To that end, we have already made several important changes to the CCAA board for the 2014–16 term in order to better represent the diverse voices among our alumni population.

Reflective of our population's growing geographic diversity, our new president, Doug Wolf '88, is not from the tri-state area — a happy coincidence considering our increasing efforts to engage alumni outside of NYC. I pass the torch to Doug, who lives in the Boston area, with excitement and gratitude, knowing that he will carry us even further beyond the point on the horizon where, three years ago, I envisioned we'd be today.

We have reorganized our committees to focus on four important areas: the ongoing Intellectual Experience of alumni; the Power Network through which our alumni and students connect to each other; Pride and Recognition, which creates more shared experiences for us to celebrate our Columbia Blue as well as our accomplished individuals; and Columbia Service, to meet the aspirations of Columbians who would be leaders and make a true impact.

We have added three VPs to the leadership team to grow our reach, and I am excited to welcome and congratulate eight new members, who bring a wealth of volunteer leadership to the team. Mike Brown Jr. '06 is a co-chair of the Young Leaders' Council; Gene Davis '75, '76 SIPA, '80L returns after a term on the Board of Visitors and sponsorship of Valentini's "3-2-1 Challenge"; Steve Coleman '83 has been an ARC chair in the Boston area; Stefanie Katz-Rothman '88 was a leader of her 25th reunion and an adviser on our branding and marketing efforts; Arthur Kohn '84, '86L

(Continued on page 87)

CCAA Executive Board 2014–16

PRESIDENT **Doug Wolf '88**

VP ENGAGEMENT **Laura Lopez '92**

VP DEVELOPMENT **Michael Behringer '89**

VP STATE OF THE COLLEGE **Michelle Estilo Kaiser '87**

SECRETARY **Stacy Rotner '99**

CHAIR **Kyra Tirana Barry '87**

CHAIR EMERITUS
Geoffrey Colvin '74, '77L, '78 Business

MEMBERS
Zila Acosta '11, '15L; Craig Brod '77; Gene Davis '75, '76 SIPA, '80L; Leslie Gittess '88; Stefanie Katz-Rothman '88; Arthur Kohn '84, '86L; Scott Koonin '02; Ira Malin '75; Francis Phillip '90; Ted Schweitzer '91, '94L; Sherri Pancer Wolf '90

Bookshelf

The Dream of a Democratic Culture: Mortimer J. Adler ['23] and the Great Books Idea by *Tim Lacy*. The author provides a historical account of "Great Book" collections and their proponents, like Adler, who sought to support an intellectually robust, consensus-oriented democratic culture (Palgrave Macmillan, $95).

An Unusual Arrangement: A Present-Day Romance and Its Special Ground Rules by *Durham Caldwell '48*. The novel follows a couple in a budding romance through their summertime adventures around Cape Cod (CreateSpace, $7.95).

Transforming a College: The Story of a Little-Known College's Strategic Climb to National Distinction by *George Keller '51*. This updated version of the book by the late Keller (CCT's former editor) detailing Elon's reinvention as a thriving liberal arts university includes a new foreword and afterword from the university's president (Johns Hopkins Press, $24.95).

Le Livre Des Lecteurs (A Book of Readers) with photos by *George S. Zimbel '51*, texts by *Vicki Goldberg, Dany Laferrière* and *Elaine Sernovitz Zimbel*. In this monograph, George S. Zimbel captures the evolution of everyday life since 1950 through his photography of people around the world reading (Les Éditions du Passage, $49.95).

Mostly Grave Thoughts: On Mortality and Other Matters by *Eugene Goodheart '53*. Goodheart's essays serve as a memoir, exploring the self through themes such as aging, mortality, illness, fatherhood and marriage (Transaction Publishers, $44.95).

New Water: Twelve Stories by *Anthony Robinson '53*. This collection of short stories examines the moral and spiritual crossroads of life and the people of small-town America (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, $8.95).

An Improbable Life: My 60 Years at Columbia and Other Adventures by *Michael I. Sovern '53*. In this memoir, Columbia's 17th president discusses restoring the University's stature after the 1968 protests as well as issues in academia such as coeducation, affordability and affirmative action (Columbia University Press, $30).

Prison of Light by *Donald Steckler '54*. This e-book collection of poetry reflects on metaphysics and God (Outskirts Press, Inc., $9.99).

Bobby's Song & Short Stories by *Richard Ascher '55*. Ascher's collection of short stories presents an amalgamation of tragic, witty and crude characters who believe in their good intentions as they commit horrendous crimes (Ascher, $12.95).

The Cambridge History of The First World War: Three Volume Set edited by *Jay Winter '66*. Winter produces an authoritative and comprehensive history of the Great War (Cambridge University Press, $450).

World Cinema Through Global Genres by *William V. Costanzo '67*. In this textbook, the author organizes international films by region to sharpen students' understanding of global genres, aesthetics, culture and film theory (Wiley-Blackwell, $39.95).

Chomsky's Challenge to American Power: A Guide for the Critical Reader by *Anthony Greco '67*. The author studies Noam Chomsky's role as a public intellectual and his analysis of American politics, foreign policy and more (Vanderbilt University Press, $29.95).

The Politics of Simple Living: Why Our Economy Is Making Life Worse and How We Can Make it Better by *Charles Siegel '67*. Siegel proposes policies to address a hypergrowth economy's damaging effects on quality of life and the environment (Preservation Institute, $14.95).

The Biblical Outlook: Topics in Jewish Philosophy by *Rabbi Shlomo Polachek '68*. The author surveys topics in Jewish philosophy through the Hebrew Bible (Urim Publications, $29.95).

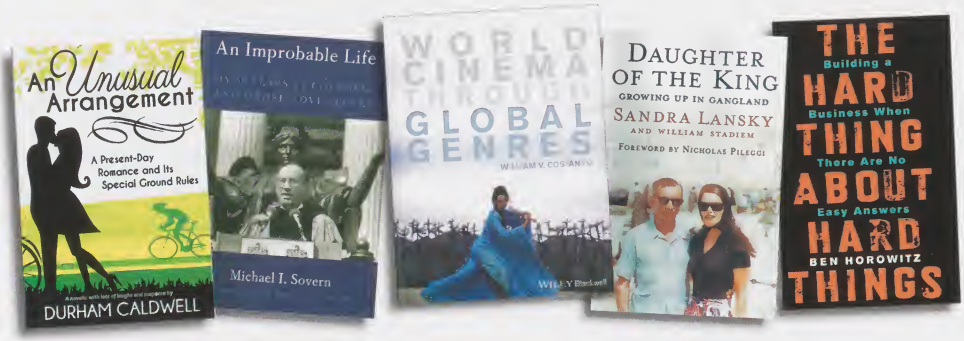
Daughter of the King: Growing Up in Gangland by *William Stadiem '69* and *Sandra Lansky*. In her memoir, co-written by Stadiem, Lansky reflects on her life as the daughter of legendary mob boss Meyer Lansky, the brains behind the enforcement arm of the American Mafia known as Murder Incorporated (Weinstein Books, $26).

The Art of the Watchdog by *Daniel Feldman '70* and *David R. Eichenthal*. The authors review current government oversight techniques and arm the reader with tools to combat fraud, waste, abuse and corruption (State University of New York Press: Excelsior Editions, $29.95).

Shakespeare in America: An Anthology from the Revolution to Now by *James Shapiro '77, the Larry Miller Professor of English and Comparative Literature*. Shapiro explores the influence of the playwright's works on America, from politics to music to theater and film productions (The Library of America, $29.95).

The Murder of the Middle Class by *Wayne Allyn Root '83*. Root offers a plan for fiscal conservatives and Libertarians to "retake" Congress, the presidency and the nation (Regnery Publishing, 27.99).

Cinderella Spinderella by *Mark Binder '84*. Based on his spoken-word story for inner-city children



Brad Stone '93 Examines Amazon And the Man Behind It

By Justin DeFreitas

San Francisco journalist **Brad Stone '93** has covered Silicon Valley for 15 years. During that time, books about the great technology companies and their CEOs have proliferated, as their products have had increasingly profound effects on our daily lives. But Stone noticed a significant gap in the library.

"I saw all the books about other tech giants — Apple, Facebook, Google — but no one had done a great Amazon book," he says.

There were legitimate reasons. CEO Jeff Bezos had instilled a culture of secrecy at Amazon and many writers who wanted to tell the company's story had been denied access to its central figures. In addition, the online giant's Seattle location, away from the tech hub of the Bay Area, afforded it some relief from journalists. But Stone felt these obstacles only partially explained the lack of a serious study. "Everyone had dismissed Amazon as a boring old retailer," he says. "But the company was doing incredibly well and showed a constitutional knack for expanding and getting into different businesses."



PHOTO: CYNTHIA E. WOOD



Stone was well positioned to take on the challenge. He had interned for *Newsweek* after college and worked his way up to junior reporter, filling in for the magazine's New York and Chicago correspondents. In the late '90s he was assigned to the technology beat and moved to Silicon Valley — a shift that put him at ground zero for the industry's boom, subsequent bust and resurgence. After *Newsweek,* Stone worked for *The New York Times* and, more recently, for *Bloomberg Businessweek*.

Stone had something else working in his favor: access. He had interviewed Bezos a dozen times through the years and his coverage of Amazon and the tech industry had earned him Bezos' respect. After Stone pitched him the idea of a book modeled on business books they both admired, including Walter Isaacson's biography of Steve Jobs, the CEO was skeptical but supportive — and for the first time gave the go-ahead for many of his loyal associates, past and present, to speak on the record about Amazon and Bezos himself.

The result is *The Everything Store: Jeff Bezos and the Age of Amazon* (Little, Brown and Co., $28), in which Stone traces the Amazon story from its birth as a start-up selling books out of a garage to an international corporation that employs hundreds of thousands of people, racked up $74 billion in sales in 2013, and is on track to reach $100 billion faster than any other retailer. The book covers the company's innovations, its influence on the business and tech world, its cultural impact and its internal operations — with Bezos as the relentless driving force pushing the company to expand, evolve and dominate. Stone makes the case that whether you love it or love to hate it, Amazon is one of the world's most pervasive and influential companies as well as "one of the tent-pole companies of the century."

And Bezos himself, Stone says, is not merely a retailer on par with Sam Walton, but one who "ranks up there with the greats of the technology industry. Like Steve Jobs, he has the ability to disrupt every industry he goes into."

Stone contends that Bezos was among the first to recognize the potential of the Internet, and his vision enabled Amazon to create new business models, changing the way consumers read and shop. As an example, he cites the first Kindle: "By no means a work of design art, it was like a bastard child of a BlackBerry and a '90s-era PC. But you could buy a book over a cellular network in 60 seconds, from anywhere in the world. Bezos made an unorthodox and risky bet on developing hardware and creating a digital distribution model."

And Bezos made that bet in 2004, at a time when the idea of e-reading was all but dead. "Without the Kindle, books may have been lost in transition to digital media," says Stone. "Sony's e-reader was failing, NuvoMedia's Rocketbook had failed, Google was embroiled in lawsuits over its effort to scan every book ever made and Steve Jobs said the whole concept of e-books was flawed because people don't read."

Bezos also pushed his company into new businesses and markets. Today, Amazon is not merely a seller of retail products but of the infrastructure upon which other entrepreneurs build their companies. In fact, half of Amazon's business is as a platform for other businesses. With Amazon Web Services, Stone says, "Bezos single-handedly reinvented Silicon Valley with web services that made it easier to start a company. He made cheap storage and processing power available to cash-strapped start-ups."

Along the way, Bezos, like Jobs, often pushed the ethical envelope. Stone recounts instances of the CEO's brutalizing and destroying competitors, as well as engaging in profit-bleeding price wars to force promising start-ups to sell out to Amazon. Bezos' leadership style also goes under Stone's microscope: He demands long hours from his employees, insists they be as driven as he and has been known to eviscerate them as incompetent, ignorant or just plain stupid when they fall short of his expectations. The reason, Stone says, is that Bezos wants every ounce of energy directed toward his ultimate goal of creating "the everything store" — a one-stop online source for everything that a consumer could want, and at the lowest prices.

For some, the idea of an enormous corporation selling everything under the sun and putting small, independent shops out of business is a kind of dystopian nightmare. Bezos is unfazed by such criticism. "He answers that it's the Internet that's disrupting businesses and industries, not Amazon," Stone says. In the Internet era, Bezos often says, the power rests with customers — they can compare prices, review products and make their voices heard. "The new regime favors the customer," says Stone. "Bezos' response is that Amazon is just good at thriving in that landscape."

Justin DeFreitas *is a Bay Area writer, editor and cartoonist.*

with physical disabilities, Binder's e-book retells Cinderella, offering 25 storytelling combinations with a humorous and urban twist (Light Publications, $4.99).

The Fate Motif by *Douglas Nordfors '86*. The author's latest collection of poetry reflects on time, the self, historical figures and meditation (Plain View Press, $14.95).

The Confidence Code: The Science and Art of Self-Assurance — What Women Should Know by *Claire Shipman '86* and *Katty Kay*. Combining research in genetics, gender, behavior and cognition, the authors provide working women a guide for confidence and success in a corporate world dominated by men (HarperBusiness, $27.99).

The Hard Thing About Hard Things: Building a Business When There Are No Easy Answers by *Ben Horowitz '88*. The University trustee and cofounder of the venture capital firm Andreessen Horowitz offers tough-talk advice and practical wisdom for starting a business, tackling issues such as the ethics of hiring and firing friends, when to sell and how to organize an office (HarperCollins, $29.99).

The Life and Opinions of the Housecat Hastings by *Harrison Bae Wein '90*. The author's first novel is an autobiography of a housecat that rises from humble beginnings to become the leader of all feline-kind (Derwood Press, $13.95).

Miami for Families: A Vacation Guide for Parents and Kids by *Laura Albritton '93*. From organizing activities by their age-appropriateness to mapping every restroom and parking location, Albritton details Miami's sites, activities and restaurants (University Press of Florida, $18.95).

Yummy Supper: 100 Fresh, Luscious & Honest Recipes from a Gluten-Free Omnivore by *Erin Scott '93*. Award-winning food blogger Scott compiles recipes with an emphasis on natural ingredients, flavor and fun (Rodale, $24.99).

Visible City by *Tova Mirvis '95*. This story of a young mother who spies on her neighbors, curious about their relationships and love lives, examines commitment, loneliness and the fears of both young and old when it comes to fulfillment (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $24).

Rethinking the Politics of Absurdity: Albert Camus, Postmodernity, and the Survival of Innocence by *Matthew H. Bowker '96*. The author discusses the role of absurdity in literature as a means to soften and diminish tragedy, arguing that a healthy community must be able to face the pain of losses, terror and destruction (Routledge, $130).

Hollywood Exiles in Europe: The Blacklist and Cold War Film Culture by *Rebecca Prime '96*. Prime documents the untold story of the American directors, screenwriters and actors who exiled themselves to Europe as a result of Hollywood's 1950s and 1960s blacklist (Rutgers University Press, $27.95).

Tangier: A Literary Guide for Travellers by *Josh Shoemake '96*. This travel guide explores the literary history of Tangier, Morocco, and the spies, outlaws, outcasts and writers who made it their home (I. B. Tauris, $25).

Dorothy Must Die by *Danielle Paige '97*. In this novel, the Land of Oz is in ruin and a new girl from Kansas must kill a tyrannical Dorothy as well as the Scarecrow, the Tin Man and the Cowardly Lion (HarperCollins, $17.99).

Meatless All Day: Recipes for Inspired Vegetarian Meals by *Dina Cheney '99*. The food columnist's latest cookbook offers 85 vegetarian meals with filling, textured and "meaty" ingredients (Taunton Press, $19.95).

Everybody Else: Adoption and the Politics of Domestic Diversity in Postwar America by *Sarah Potter '99*. The author studies families who chose to adopt during the 1940s and 1950s as a way to fit in with the cultural expectations of the middle-class, affluent lifestyle (The University of Georgia Press, $29.95).

Adam by *Ariel Schrag '03*. This debut novel looks at love and identity through the life of a social misfit who moves to New York City and joins the gay marriage and transgender rights scene, eventually falling in love with a lesbian (Mariner Books, $13.95).

Maurice Dobb: Political Economist by *Tim Shenk '07*. Shenk documents the life of Maurice Dobb, a prominent Communist economist, and casts new light on the connections among economics, politics and power in the 20th century (Palgrave Macmillan, $115).

Darwin's On the Origin of Species: A Modern Rendition by *Daniel Duzdevich '09*. Duzdevich simplifies the language of Charles Darwin's classic work into clear, modern prose for the contemporary reader (Indiana University Press, $30).

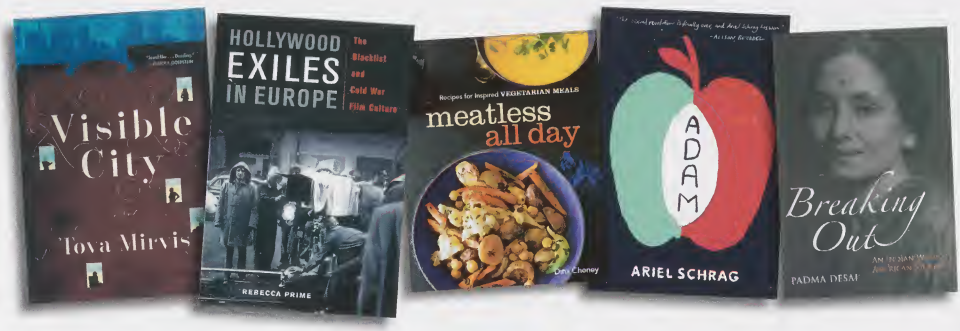
Breaking Out: An Indian Woman's American Journey by *Padma Desai, the Gladys and Roland Harriman Professor of Comparative Economic Systems*. Desai recounts her academic life, her discovery of self and the difficulties of assimilating into American culture and society while retaining her Indian traditions (The MIT Press, $24.95).

Beyond Gibraltar by *Maristella de Panizza Lorch, professor emerita of Italian and of Medieval and Renaissance studies at Barnard College and Columbia University*. This memoir covers Lorch's time growing up in war-torn Europe and traveling to the United States (Pegasus Press, $20.47).

The Story of the Jews: Finding the Right Words 1,000 B.C.–1492 A.D. by *Simon Schama, University Professor*. In part one of this two-volume work, Schama examines the history of the Jewish people across several millennia and continents (HarperCollins, $39.99).

Recovering Place: Reflections on Stone Hill *by Mark C. Taylor, professor of religion and chair of the Department of Religion*. Taylor steps outside the fast-paced and technology-addicted world to reflect on the importance of place, specifically the beauty of the Berkshire Mountains (Columbia University Press, $35).

Karl Daum '15



Obituaries

1938

George W. Sferra, dentist, Gulfport, Fla., on November 6, 2013. Sferra was a captain in the Army in WWII. He practiced dentistry in New York City for more than 50 years and was a past president of the New York County Dental Society and the New York Academy of Dentistry. He was predeceased by his wife of 63 years, Edith, in 2012. Sferra is survived by his children, George W. Jr. and his wife, Barbara, Mary Sferra Facciolla and her husband, Tom, James and his wife, Cynthia Allen, and John and his wife, Ivana; six grandchildren; and sister, Elinor Bazaz. Memorial contributions may be made to Catholic Charities.

1942



John A. Persson '42

John A. Persson, retired engineer, Cranberry Township, Pa., on October 15, 2013. Born September 4, 1919, in Denmark, Persson immigrated to New York with his family. He entered Columbia with the Class of 1942 but graduated from Engineering with a B.S. in electrical engineering. At Columbia, Persson rowed crew. He was employed by Union Carbide and Carborundum Co., Mining and Metals Division, as senior design and development engineer, Engineering and Construction Department, in Niagara Falls. In 1969, Persson worked for Lectromelt Corp. in Pittsburgh as product manager, where he specialized in manufacturing electric furnaces and ancillary equipment. He retired and in 1987 formed Trode Tech to exploit invention of iron free self-baking electrodes for submerged arc furnace production of silicon metal. In the field of electrochemistry and metallurgy, he held 27 patents. He authored 20 publications. Persson was fluent in six languages and enjoyed traveling. He was predeceased by his wife, Aina Sophia Almen, whom he married in 1942 and who passed away in 1979. He is survived by a son, David J., and his wife, Marcia; two grandchildren; companion, Claudette Malfray; sister, Judith Harriet Foley; nephews, Frank and Jim Foley; and niece, Judy Lynn Foley.

1945

Joseph M. Stein, retired neurologist, Topeka, Kan., on July 24, 2013. Stein was born on January 27, 1924, in Weehawken, N.J. He commuted to Columbia while in the World War II Army Specialized Training Program, finishing his premedical degree in 1944. Stein earned an M.D. from NYU in 1947. After a yearlong internship at Morrisania Hospital in NYC, he completed a three-year residency at Bellevue Hospital. Stein served as a neurologist at Scott AFB for two years during the Korean conflict. He moved to Topeka in 1953 to join the Karl Menninger School of Psychiatry for training, completed in 1955. He then moved to the Winter General (V.A.) Hospital until 1957, when he became part of the Menninger neurology-neurosurgery staff and faculty of the University of Kansas School of Medicine. In 1991 he joined the Cotton-O'Neil Clinic and retired in 2009 at 85. Stein is survived by his wife of 53 years, Lucy "Nickie" Nichols; sister, Helen Alexander, and her husband, Robert; brother-in-law, Arthur Nichols, and his wife, Phyllis; children, Janet and her husband, Christopher Rauschenberg, Mark and his wife, Jill Kleven, and Naomi; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Doorstep, the Sunflower Music Festival or the Doctor Joseph and Lucy Nichols Stein Fund for Music Student Travel or Nursing Scholarships.

1946

Bernard Goldman, retired engineer, Lakewood, Colo., on October 27, 2013. Born on July 20, 1926, in Manhattan, Goldman was initially a member of the Class of 1946 but graduated in 1947 from Engineering and in 1948 from the Journalism School. He was retired from the Navy and had been affiliated with Ford Instrument, Grumman Aircraft, Connecticut General Life Insurance Co. and insurance/financial service companies. Goldman founded Evergreen Beth Congregation, in Evergreen, Colo., and the JCRS Issac Solomon Historic Synagogue Foundation for restoring the synagogue on the campus of the Jewish Consumptives Relief Society. An avid skier, he was awarded the Halstead Award by the USSA-Rocky Mountain Division for outstanding volunteer services to the sport and was a board member of the Loveland Racing Club, promoting skiing for kids. Goldman is survived by his wife, Susan Zinn Goldman (née Shuman); children, Janlori and her partner, Katherine Franke, Michael '84 and his wife, DeeDee Carlson, David '85 and his wife, Karen Dodds, and Lisa Zinn and her husband, Steve Sikorski; and four grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Bernie Goldman Memorial Scholarship Fund, Loveland Ski Club, PO Box 1032, Georgetown, CO 80444.

1950



Joseph A. Mehan '50

Joseph A. Mehan, retired communications executive, Fort Myers, Fla., on December 18, 2013. An Army veteran, Mehan earned a degree in 1951 from the Journalism School and was a newspaper reporter, writer and field producer for NBC News. He covered the Kennedy assassinations, the Civil Rights Movement, space missions and political conventions, and earned Peabody, Ohio State, Writers Guild and CINE awards. At the United Negro College Fund (UNCF), he wrote and produced documentaries featuring hosts such as Cyrus Vance, Harvard President Derek Bok, Hank Aaron, Arthur Ashe and Ray Charles, leading the Ad Council to name the UNCF a Major Campaign and appoint Young & Rubicam to develop a slogan to distinguish the UNCF. While director of communications at UNCF, Mehan introduced and promoted "A Mind Is a Terrible Thing to Waste." He represented UNESCO's controversial "New World Information and Communications Order" before the UN General Assembly and world press for 12 years and retired to become an adjunct professor of international communications at SIPA, where he taught 1990–2000. Mehan is survived by his wife, Margaret "Peggy" Mehan '63 SW; sons, Jeff and his wife, Kimberly Henderson '84 Business, David, Christopher and Michael; stepchildren, Katherine Stansmore-Heckscher '95 P&S and Thomas Stansmore; and 10 grandchildren.

1951

Allan W. Robbins, retired Navy officer and branch librarian, Alexandria, Va., on March 3, 2013. Robbins was born in Camden, Maine, on October 22, 1928. At Columbia, he was a member of Phi Kappa Psi, completed the NROTC program and graduated with a bachelor's in political science and a commission in the Navy. Robbins served in both Korea and Vietnam and was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal. Following his military retirement in 1971, Robbins attended the Catholic University of

Obituary Submission Guidelines

Columbia College Today welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Deaths are noted in the next available issue in the "Other Deaths Reported" box. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that *CCT* receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at the editors' discretion. Click "Contact Us" at college.columbia.edu/cct, or mail materials to Obituaries Editor, *Columbia College Today*, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 6th Fl., New York, NY 10025.



Allan W. Robbins '51

America and earned a master's in library science. From 1973 to 1993, he was the branch librarian for two public libraries in Alexandria, Va. He also was the curator for the Alexandria Library Lloyd House, which housed the city's rare document collections. In his retirement, Robbins indulged his lifelong interests in literature, history, music and travel. With his wife of 61 years, Lianne Lawrence Robbins, he enjoyed winters in Florida and frequent visits with his six children and 11 grandchildren.

1952

Thomas E. Federowicz, retired physician, Binghamton, N.Y., on November 27, 2013. After graduating from Plymouth H.S., where he was a three-season athlete, Federowicz earned a football scholarship to Columbia, where he played tackle on both defense and offense. He then earned an M.D. in 1956 from P&S. After completing a residency in general surgery, followed by a hand fellowship at Roosevelt Hospital, Federowicz was hospital chief of surgery at Myrtle Beach AFB. He moved his family to Vestal, N.Y., in December 1962 to begin his private practice in surgery. There, Federowicz and his wife, Jeanne, raised their nine children. Federowicz was an assistant clinical professor of surgery for Syracuse Medical School. From a young age, he believed in community service and was involved with many organizations. Federowicz was predeceased by a son, Gregory, and is survived by his wife; children, Tom and his wife, Jane, Daniel '81 and his wife, Caroline, Stephen and his wife, Mary DeGuardi-Federowicz, John Ed Bon, Mary, Barbara Jean and her husband, Michael Houck, Janine, Ann Marie and Greg's widow, Maria Kirchever-Federowicz; and 21 grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Lourdes Hospice, the Kopernik Society of Broome County, the Dr. Garabed A. Fattal Community Free Clinic of Binghamton or Birthright of Binghamton.

Lawrence E. Walsh '32, '35L, Trustee Emeritus, Renowned Litigator

Lawrence E. Walsh '32, '35L, a University trustee emeritus, the special prosecutor in the Iran-Contra scandal and a former corporate litigator at Davis Polk & Wardwell, died on March 19, 2014, in Nichols Hills, Okla. He was 102.

In 1986, Walsh, 75 and retired from Davis Polk, was appointed special prosecutor in the Iran-Contra scandal by Attorney General Edwin Meese III. Walsh pursued allegations that the White House had been secretly supplying weapons to Iran in the Middle East and to Contra Rebels in Central America. Seven years and $37 million later, the case fell apart even though Walsh had won significant convictions. Six key figures were pardoned by George H.W. Bush and two more were granted immunity by Congress. In his 1997 memoir, *Firewall: The Iran-Contra Conspiracy and Cover-Up,* Walsh condemned Bush and Congress for preventing "the rule of law being applied to perpetrators of criminal activity of constitutional dimension."

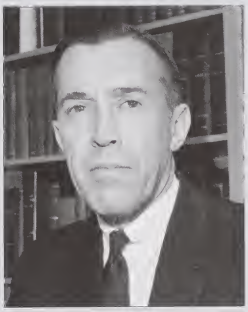


PHOTO: AP/JACOB HARRIS

Walsh was born on January 8, 1912, in the fishing hamlet of Port Maitland, Nova Scotia. He and his family moved to Queens when he was 2 and he became a naturalized citizen eight years later. Walsh graduated from Flushing H.S. and worked his way through the College and the Law School clerking in a bookstore, working at the Post Office on Christmas and working daily at a Columbia cafeteria. During summer breaks he went to sea on steamships in the United States Merchant Marine.

At 24, Walsh was asked to join a special state investigation of corrupt Brooklyn prosecutors, and in 1937, Manhattan D.A. Thomas E. Dewey '25L appointed Walsh to a staff of 70 prosecutors to go after racketeers and corrupt Tammany Hall politicians.

Walsh joined Davis Polk in 1941. He left a year later when Dewey was elected governor of New York and requested Walsh as his assistant; Walsh later became Dewey's chief counsel. In 1954, President Eisenhower appointed Walsh to the federal bench in Manhattan, where he earned a reputation for harsh sentencing. In 1957, when William P. Rogers became U.S. attorney general, he appointed Walsh chief deputy to oversee the selection of federal judges and the integration of public schools in Little Rock, Ark.

Walsh returned to Davis Polk in 1960 as a senior partner and corporate litigator representing companies such as General Mills, AT&T and ITT. In 1969, he served as deputy to chief negotiator Henry Cabot Lodge Jr. as a part of the U.S. delegation to the Paris peace talks with North Vietnam. That same year, he led the American Bar Association committee that found President Nixon's nominees, Clement F. Haynsworth Jr. and G. Harrold Carswell, qualified for the U.S. Supreme Court, though both were rejected by the Senate. Walsh was ABA president 1975–76.

A 1967 Alumni Medalist, Walsh was a University trustee 1968–81, after which he became a trustee emeritus. In 1989, he was presented a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement.

Walsh's obituary in *The Washington Post* quoted a lawyer who worked on the Iran-Contra investigation and delivered papers to Walsh, who was always "still working — in a coat and tie, at the little hotel desk, as though this was what everybody does at 11 o'clock at night when they're 75 years old."

Walsh is survived by daughters Barbara and Janet Larson, from his marriage to Maxine Winton, who died in 1964; daughter Elizabeth, from his second marriage to Mary Porter; stepchildren, Sara and Dale; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Karl Daum '15

Robert C. Schwegler, certified life underwriter, North Tonawanda, N.Y., on June 25, 2012. Born on February 7, 1929, in North Tonawanda, Schwegler was Navy ROTC, a Lion linebacker and center, and member of Sigma Chi while at the College. After graduation, he and his wife, Patricia McCoy, moved to San Diego, where Schwegler graduated from the Naval Amphibious Training Unit. After serving as a naval officer during the Korean conflict, the couple returned to North Tonawanda and raised five children. Schwegler was a certified life underwriter with Home Life Insurance Co. and coached varsity football at St. Joe's and Nichols Schools in Western New York. Later, he worked in sales with Gray Line Tours in Niagara Falls. Schwegler enjoyed reading, gardening, bird watching, the beach, watching sports and playing euchre. He is survived by his wife of 59 years; daughter, Joan Winter, and her husband, Ron; sons, Robert P., William and his wife, Dawn, Carl and his wife, Gina, and George and his wife, Cathy; seven grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

1958

Charles A. Swenson, retired software developer and editor, Alpharetta, Ga., on September 21, 2013. Swenson was born on September 23, 1936, in Bergen County,

Richard D. Friedlander '60, '63 Business, Alumni Leader

Richard D. Friedlander '60, '63 Business, a former president of the Columbia College Alumni Association and an involved student and alumnus, died on March 31, 2014, in New York City. He was 75.

Friedlander earned a B.A. in fine arts and three years later an M.B.A. As an undergraduate, he was a member of the Marching Band, the Senior Society of Nacoms and the Board of Managers, in its inaugural year. He served on the Undergraduate Dormitory/Housing Council, was rushing chairman and historian of Phi Gamma Delta and was a member of the ethics committee of Pamphratria, the interfraternity association. He served a tour of duty in the Coast Guard as a clerk/typist.

Involved with the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors since the 1970s, Friedlander was president 1978–80. He co-chaired his class' 50th reunion in 2010, had been a Columbia College Fund Class Agent, marched on several occasions at Class Day in the Alumni Parade of Classes and was a member of the Columbia University Band Alumni Association, the Society of Columbia Graduates and the Columbia University Club of New York. Friedlander continued to be involved with the Senior Society of Nacoms and formerly was a member of the Alumni Federation Alumni Council. In recognition of his deep involvement with Columbia, he was presented the Alumni Medal in 1980.



In his professional career, Friedlander was most recently an SVP in the investments division of Smith Barney in New York. He had worked in investment banking and financial services since the 1970s, first with Loeb, Rhoades & Hornblower, then with Shearson Lehman Brothers/American Express from 1983. Shearson Lehman became part of Smith Barney in 1993. After Salomon Smith Barney was formed in 1997, Citigroup acquired it in 2000, and it became part of Morgan Stanley in 2009. Friedlander stayed with the firm in its various incarnations.

Friedlander, who enjoyed gardening, is survived by his wife, Iris Friedlander '63 Barnard.

Lisa Palladino

N.J. He graduated from the College with a dual major in history and philosophy. While at Columbia he was an active member of the Van Am Society. In his sophomore year he took a course in Zen Buddhism with Daisetz Teitaro Suzuki, which triggered his ongoing fascination with the Japanese culture. In 1974, Swenson began taking private lessons in Japanese while attending Japanese classes at night at Oglethorpe University in Atlanta. He also studied at the Atlanta branch of Brenau University and was a member of the Japan-America Society of Georgia for more than 20 years. A Japanese postal history specialist, he joined the International Society for Japanese Philately and in 2002 was elected a director of the society. In 2008, Swenson became assistant editor for postmarks for the society's bimonthly journal, *Japanese Philately.* He is survived by his wife, Sandy; son, Bjorn; daughter, Kristen; and son-in-law, Capt. Perry Yaw.

1959

Evan Juro, marketing and advertising executive, Matamoras, Pa., on November 13, 2013. A Brooklyn native, Juro earned an M.B.A. from NYU. He was an advertising and marketing executive with Grey Advertising, Citibank and Prudential Insurance, and also had his own firm, Evan Juro and Associates. His hobbies included sailing, running and playing jazz piano. Juro had recently published a book, *Dear Instant Family,* the true story of what happened when 400 women responded to his 1993 personal ad in New York magazine seeking a wife and a mother for his young children. Juro is survived by his partner, Teri Gottlieb; daughters, Becky and Samantha; sons James, Jeremy, Julian, Todd and his wife, Laura, and Stephen and his wife, Renee; four grandsons; and brother and sister-in-law, Richard '63, '66L and Fran.

1961

Marshall H. Berman, author, academic and philosopher, New York City, on September 11, 2013. Berman was born on November 24, 1940, in the Bronx. A graduate of Bronx Science, Berman earned a doctorate from Harvard in 1968. He joined the City College faculty shortly thereafter and was distinguished professor of political science. He also helped establish the Center for Worker Education in Manhattan, where working adults could pursue college degrees. Berman's intellectual passion was first stirred by Marx and he viewed him as deeply relevant long after Communist governments faded. Berman's *New York Times* obituary stated: "Marx, he insisted counterintuitively, might admire the energy and diversity that capitalism has delivered to the United States even if he believed there was a better way. The Bronx, Times Square, all of New York in its many incarnations — from the seedy, bankrupt 1970s to the murderous 1980s to today's urban boutique — was in his view alive and luminous in its recklessness and resilience." Berman was a prolific writer, contributing to many publications, including *The New York Times,* and he was a board member of the leftist journal *Dissent.* His best-known book, *All That Is Solid Melts Into Air: The Experience of Modernity,* was published in 1982 and took its name from a line in Marx's *Communist Manifesto.* Berman is survived by his wife, Shellie Sclan, and sons, Danny Berman and Eli Tax-Berman.

1965



Geoffrey M. Horn '65

Geoffrey M. Horn, editor and author, Red Bank, N.J., on November 25, 2013. Born in Manhattan in 1944, Horn was a first-generation college graduate who also studied at St John's College, Cambridge, U.K. Shortly after returning to the States, in 1967, he married his high school friend and pen pal turned life partner, Marcia, who would be his wife of 46 years. Horn began work at Macmillan Publishers, leaving to start a freelance writing and editing business. He built a loyal network of employers and colleagues at *Collier's Year Book, Funk & Wagnalls New Encyclopedia* and *The World Almanac.* He penned several noted Judaica titles including *Heritage: Civilization and the Jews* (with Abba Eban) and the bestselling *Bible Stories for Children.* Later, he wrote more than 50 nonfiction children's books, profiling contemporary figures and career paths. Horn bought an original Mac in 1984, first took to the stage in his 40s, learned to play Bartók in his 50s and went to indie and punk concerts into his 60s. Survivors include his wife; sister, Madeline DeLeon; sons, Dave and Michael; daughter-in-law, Jennifer; and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Doctors Without Borders.

1966

Leonard V. Don Diego Jr., retired teacher, EMT volunteer, Manalapan, N.J., on September 17, 2013. Born in the Park Slope section of Brooklyn, Don Diego had resided in Manalapan for 20 years. He taught at Xaverian H.S., Brooklyn, and then at Brick H.S. and Kean University. After retiring in 2007, Don Diego became a volunteer EMT for the Manalapan/Englishtown squad. He was a communicant of St. Thomas More Catholic

Church, Manalapan, and had volunteered for the College's Alumni Representative Committee. Don Diego enjoyed learning, history, sports, collectibles and model trains. He was predeceased by his brother, Edmund, and is survived by his wife of 30 years, Patricia; and children, Leonard III and Laura. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

1967



John W. Elsberg '67

John W. Elsberg, retired editor, Arlington, Va., on July 28, 2012. Elsberg was born in New York City on August 4, 1945. He was a history major at the College and received a Kellett Fellowship to attend St John's College in Cambridge, U.K. He and his wife, Connie '67 Barnard, moved to England where their son, Stephen, was born. There, Elsberg studied English history and taught for the University of Maryland overseas. On his return to the States, Elsberg settled at the Army's Center of Military History, where he worked 1975–2005. He rose to be the center's editor in chief. Elsberg wrote poetry from the time he was in high school, was the author of more than a dozen books and chapbooks, and appeared in a number of anthologies. He was fiction editor for *Gargoyle* magazine in the 1970s and recently was poetry editor for *The Delmarva Review*. From the 1970s on, he was the editor of *Bogg, Journal of Contemporary Writing*. He hosted open poetry readings at The Writer's Center in Bethesda, Md., for almost 25 years and led writing workshops. In recent years, Elsberg wrote primarily tanka and haiku and was working on a collaboration with a fellow poet in which they evolved their own style based on these forms.

1972

William A. Pencak, professor and editor, Coburn, Pa., on December 9, 2013. A native New Yorker, Pencak earned an M.A. in 1973 followed by an M.Phil in 1975 and a Ph.D. in 1978, all in history and from GSAS. A professor emeritus of history at Penn State, distinguished historian of early American history, historian of Pennsylvania and twice editor of *Pennsylvania History*, he also was an author. His first books, *War, Politics, and Revolution in Provincial Massachusetts* (198l) and *America's Burke: The Mind of Thomas Hutchinson* (1982), focused on New England, and his third, *For God and Country: The American Legion, 1919–1941* (1989) was written for a friend who had set out to write it but passed away. His *Jews and Gentiles in Early America, 1654–1800* (2005) took him into the reconstruction of an oft-overlooked segment of colonial society. He co-edited *Pennsylvania: A History of the Commonwealth* and was working on a biography of Bishop William White, Pennsylvania's first Episcopal bishop. Pencak taught classes in Jewish studies prior to his retirement from Penn State and following his retirement accepted a position as the Bert and Fanny Meisler Visiting Professor of History and Jewish Studies in the Department of History at the University of South Alabama. Pencak is survived by his mother, Harriet; and husband, Vincent Parker.

1987

Karin M. Higa, art curator, Los Angeles, on October 29, 2013. Higa earned a master's in art history from UCLA. At the time of her death she was enrolled in the doctoral art history program at USC. Higa was a specialist in Asian American art who was a curator at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles 1992–2006, rising to the rank of senior curator of art. Soon before becoming ill she had been named a curator for the Hammer Museum's "Made in L.A." Biennial for 2014 but had to step down. During her tenure at the Japanese American National Museum, Higa helped to organize many notable exhibitions, including a 1992 show of art made at internment camps during WWII and a 2008 show devoted to the art of *ikebana*, or Japanese flower arrangement. She was a curator of the touring exhibition "One Way or Another," spotlighting contemporary Asian American art, which ran at the Asia Society in New York in 2006. Higa was a Los Angeles native. She is survived by her husband, Russell Ferguson; mother; and brother.

Lisa Palladino

OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

Columbia College Today also has learned of the following deaths. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that *CCT* receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear.

1941 **John Stathis,** retired physician, Longmont, Colo., on May 23, 2014.

1945 **Stanley B. Braham,** urologist, Sleepy Hollow, N.Y., on March 27, 2014.

Seymour Fisher, retired insurance salesman, Bethlehem, Pa., on March 7, 2014.

Howard M. Schmertz, attorney, Millrose Games director, Port Washington, N.Y., on March 27, 2014.

1947 **George H. Borts,** retired economist, Barrington, R.I., on May 2, 2014.

1948 **Hoke Brissenden,** Etna, N.H., on March 6, 2013.

1949 **Albert F. Keegan,** radiologist and professor, Haverford, Pa., on February 26, 2014.

1950 **Weld S. Carter Jr.,** Penngrove, Calif., on April 10, 2014.

David B. Karlin, retired ophthalmic surgeon, New York City, on May 10, 2014.

1951 **Phillips A. Brooks,** anesthesiologist, Longwood, Fla., on December 31, 2013.

Gerald P. Brophy, retired professor, Amherst, Mass., on April 2, 2014.

1952 **Charles Zimmerman,** radiologist, Annapolis, Md., on May 3, 2014.

1953 **James C. Coyne,** New Providence, N.J., on January 27, 2014.

1954 **Sander Goldman,** Cutchogue, N.Y., on January 7, 2014.

Martin Pine, professor, New York City, on March 15, 2014.

1955 **John Burke Jr.,** retired, Montrose, N.Y., on January 6, 2014.

Martin Gottfried, drama critic and Broadway historian, New York City, on March 6, 2014.

1956 **Arthur Bank,** physician, professor emeritus, New York City, on February 27, 2014.

1957 **Erik R. Eybye,** chemical company executive, Paoli, Pa., on December 20, 2013.

1959 **Edward C. Mendrzycki,** attorney, Bronxville, N.Y., on May 11, 2014.

1961 **Kenneth C. Edelin,** retired physician, Sarasota, Fla., on December 27, 2013.

1962 **Daniel R. Shackman,** psychiatrist, Santa Barbara, Calif., on March 20, 2014.

1963 **Joel H. Rascoff,** nephrologist, New Rochelle, N.Y., on March 31, 2014.

1964 **Mark J. Zucker,** professor, Innsbruck, Austria, on August 3, 2013.

1966 **P. Lawrence Traynor,** Robertsbridge, Kent, U.K., on October 15, 2013.

1972 **Keith A. Luis,** professor, blues musician, recording artist, Austin, Texas, on July 28, 2013.

1999 **Adrianne Wadewitz,** writer and editor, Palm Springs, Calif., on April 8, 2014.

Class Notes

30 40

Columbia College Today
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Your friends and classmates want to hear from you! Please send news about yourself or your family, or a favorite Columbia College memory, to *CCT* at either of the addresses at the top of the column or via our webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

41

Robert Zucker
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Your correspondent had a serious car accident last June 29. Driving a rented car while mine was in the shop, I looked at my cell phone and smashed into the car in front of me. After several surgeries and five months of hospitals and rehab residences I am back home with a full-time helper and a great deal of nerve damage. Assuming I hang on, I should be back to normal in two years.

The following came from **Ed Alexander** '42J:

"In 1942 I entered the Army and was assigned to the Psychological Warfare Division, shipped to England, where I joined General Eisenhower's staff at SHAEF in London, and then transferred to Verdun, France, at General Bradley's headquarters.

"After the war I worked in public relations for Laurence Olivier on his Shakespeare films, *Henry V* and *Hamlet*, and in 1949 joined the Voice of America, writing and supervising broadcasts to the Soviet Union. After 10 years I joined the Foreign Service, serving in West Berlin, Budapest, Athens and East Berlin, and in between as deputy director for the U.S.S.R. and East European Division of the United States Information Agency. Following retirement in 1980, the State Department called me back to serve on the Delegation of the United States to the United Nations Human Rights Council, both as member and spokesman, in three conferences held in Ottawa, Budapest and Bern.

"After my 'second retirement,' I traveled throughout the United States and Canada, lecturing — and writing articles — on American foreign policy, especially vis-à-vis the Soviet Union. I have also written three books: *The Serpent and the Bees*, on the KGB's 15-year effort to recruit me; *A Crime of Vengeance: An Armenian Struggle for Justice* (soon to be made into a motion picture), about Turkey's genocide of the Armenian people; and a novel, *Opus*, about the search by the American and Soviet cultural attaches during the Cold War for a missing Beethoven manuscript, which culminates at KGB headquarters in Moscow. My last two lectures were delivered at the Library of Congress and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts. Somehow in between all of the above, I managed to squeeze in several hours of tennis, for which I have had a lifelong passion."

Don't hesitate to keep us posted about your activities. You can write me at either of the addresses at the top of the column or submit a note via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

42

Melvin Hershkowitz
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On January 6 I received an email, and subsequently a phone call, from Judge **Leonard Garth,** who is retired but still active in an independent living facility in North Branford, Conn. Len reported that the federal government, in recognition of his many years of service as a senior judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, has extended funding of his private chambers within his North Branford residence for two more years. Len, modest as ever, commented that at 93, he is uncertain how many cases he would sit for in the immediate future. He has been married for 72 years to his beloved, devoted wife, Sarah, who helps care for him as he negotiates his daily routine in a wheelchair. Len cannot walk but his cerebral functions remain sharp. Congratulations to Len on his outstanding career! (Note: Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito was one of Len's law clerks.)

January is a birthday month for several classmates: your correspondent on January 18 (91), **Don Mankiewicz** on January 20 (92), **Robert J. Kaufman** on January 21 (93) and **Stewart McIlvennan** on January 24 (93). At the time of this writing, all of us are in reasonably good shape and in touch with one another. Here's to the nonagenarians!

The New York Times of January 16 [online] had a memorial tribute by Evelyn Bishop to her husband, **Franklin Gerald Bishop** '43E, who died on January 14, 1996, after a long struggle with cancer. Gerry was a good friend of this writer. We met in September 1938 at a freshman beer party in John Jay Hall, where we gathered around a piano to sing bawdy songs, including *Hi Ho Kafoozalum, The Harlot of Jerusalem.* Gerry earned a second M.S. from the NYU School of Engineering in 1948. He had a long, successful career as an engineer and management consultant while remaining a loyal Columbia alumnus. During his final illness, Gerry attended a Homecoming game at Wien Stadium in his wheelchair, maintaining a cheerful attitude and enjoying the company of old friends. We salute Gerry and send warm greetings to Evelyn.

As I write these comments, the Ivy League basketball season has just closed. Columbia finished with a record of 19–12, including 8–6 in Ivy League games, then went 2–1 in the CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament for a final record of 21–13. Harvard won the Ivy League title for the fourth consecutive year, and Columbia finished third in the league. This team did not have any seniors on the roster, so it should be even better next year, with returning star Alex Rosenberg '15 and skilled three-point shooter Steve Frankoski '15 among others. We compliment coach Kyle Smith on his good work and send our hopes for an Ivy League championship in the near future.

One of my dearest and oldest friends, Dr. **Arthur Wellington** — whose late wife, Marilynn, was a Syracuse alumna — roots for both Columbia and Syracuse. At 94, Arthur, a retired optometrist in Elmira, N.Y., is perfectly lucid and sends me legible, handwritten letters with news of himself and his family. As one of three surviving members of the Columbia chapter of the Certified Degenerate Horseplayers Club (the others are **Don Mankiewicz** in Monrovia, Calif., and this writer in Northampton, Mass.), Arthur tests his still formidable handicapping skills at the Elmira OTB facility. He hopes to visit his handsome cottage in Tenant's Harbor, Maine, this summer.

My warm regards to all classmates. Your news is always welcome.

43

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Leo Stern '45 Dental writes, "After my recent 91st birthday, I feel persuaded to update my personal history. Having graduated from both the College and Dental School by 1945, I wasted no time in marrying Enid Gardiner and having a daughter, Elizabeth, in '51, and twin sons, Jay and Anthony, in '54. I tried to propel them toward the College, whispering in their ears, 'Core Curriculum,' but it didn't work. They chose the Ivy League schools in Cambridge, Mass., and New Haven, Conn., although I told them that Lit Hum started at Morningside. (I didn't mention Chicago.)

"Liz graduated from Radcliffe and embarked on a study of Celtic mythology toward her doctorate, living in Iceland several years on a Fulbright scholarship and then teaching for a while at UC Berkeley. She is now married to a tenured professor and lives in Urbana, Ill., where she is employed by the university there. Their one son, Daniel, is finishing a two-year enlistment as a sergeant in the Israeli army.

"Anthony graduated from Harvard and the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and is an assistant professor of psychiatry at the Montefiore/Einstein Medical Center. He has two sons, Charles and Joseph, and a daughter, Marguerite. Joseph graduated from Middlebury in 2011 with an interest in classics. This fall he begins Greek and Latin graduate studies at Columbia, and he taught informally during the last year.

"Jay told his mother, 'I just won't be a lawyer!' Through his own strivings he emigrated to California several times, graduated from Yale

Class Notes are submitted by alumni and edited by volunteer class correspondents and the staff of *CCT* prior to publication. Opinions expressed are those of individual alumni and do not reflect the opinions of *CCT*, its class correspondents, the College or the University.

and is a successful movie producer (Route One). He will soon produce an adaptation of the book *A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson, starring Robert Redford and Nick Nolte. Jay, who in high school was named All-New York City cornerback, has one son, Eli, who will be a quarterback in his last year of high school. Eli has been scouted by four Ivy League colleges including alma mater."

Bernie Weisberger writes, "It's hard to think that almost a year has passed since our pleasant Class of '43 (and '48) lunch last June. The summer and fall passed uneventfully for me, which, when you're into your 90s, is always good news. My wife, Rita, and I still get around and even travel a bit, often to family events involving our respective children, who are now closing in on or just past 60. That's hard to realize — and even more so that those cute little grandchildren who squealed and romped with happy cries of 'Grandpa' when you arrived bearing gifts are now fledgling lawyers and professors and suchlike, and — in Rita's case — are themselves married and parents. She has what the old South would have called a 'passel' of great-grandchildren.

"I did a little bit of writing in the fall, including a few posts on Bill Moyers' website. But for me the most interesting event of the past year was a two-week 'vacation' in sunny Cuernavaca, Mexico, where I did intensive language study in the city's International University. Two weeks of Spanish conversation and grammar, six hours a day (8 a.m.–2 p.m.) with a small and oddly mixed class. The students included a retired professor of French from Quebec, two Nigerian nuns, a young business administration student also from Nigeria, a gentleman from Japan recently retired, and yours truly. Not sure what brought the nuns there — I'd suspect preparation for work in some Hispanophone locale — but for the three of us retirees, it seems to have been just pleasure in learning. There also was plenty of pleasure in the afternoons, sipping *cervezas* or other beverages on the terrace outside the little apartment I'd rented. I don't know whether it improved my Spanish but it certainly improved my general well-being before I returned to Chicago and single-digit temperatures!

"Not much else to report from the land of 90-something. A few more good friends passed on into the beyond, saddening but inevitable. Lots of reading of works old and new. Lots of teeth-gnashing, I fear, at the political and cultural deterioration of the United States. (Harumph!) But somehow the Republic will survive — er, that is, well, I hope so. Best wishes to other members of our class and to Columbia alumni everywhere."

My wife, Dr. Audrey Evans, and I are going to the Highlands of Scotland in June to attend the wedding of her godchild, who through the years has become more like a granddaughter. We'll tack on a journey to Ireland, centering on Limerick. We don't know Eire very well and chose to visit the southern part of the country. Also, The Donkey Sanctuary is in Mallow, County Cork, and I would like to visit that facility. It was established because donkeys (and mules) are often abandoned as farms become mechanized. This organization collects the strays; feeds, heals and grooms them; and then finds receptive homes where the animals can live out their lives in security and "comfort." By chance I came across the sanctuary in action. It was during a previous trip, when a van delivered a rehabilitated donkey to the B&B where we were staying. It since has seemed to me to be a humane endeavor worthy of support.

In sad news, my friend Dr. **Arthur Leo Peterson** died on January 31, 2014, in Gladwyne, Pa. After serving as a major in the Army Air Force Medical Corps, Arthur had a distinguished career as a staff psychiatrist at the venerable Institute of the Pennsylvania Hospital. He became its chief medical officer and was a recipient of many other professional honors. He is survived by three children, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

For Bernie Weisberger '43, the most interesting event of the past year was a two-week "vacation" in Cuernavaca, Mexico, where he did intensive language study.

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I am writing this report prior to our 70th reunion, although it will reach you after that momentous celebration. Looking back 70 years brings to mind those hectic days when the war caused many disruptions of college life and turned Columbia into a different campus. The draft, coupled with the urge to enlist, cast uncertainty on all of us as to whether we would graduate and, if so, when. We reviewed the availability of the V-12 program and Army Specialized Training Program, and considered increasing our point load, hoping to obtain our degree before a call-up to duty and before our scheduled Commencement.

I enrolled in some courses that I had never before contemplated, such as "Statistics 206 Modern Computing & Tabulating Methods," which was a course in punch card operation, a mechanical data methodology that preceded the computer age. I reflect with regret that I didn't follow up my studies of that forerunner of the PC and the Mac with further related coursework. Who knows, had I done so, I might have become a rival of Steve Jobs and Bill Gates.

I achieved my personal goal, along with approximately 60 other overly ambitious students, in October 1943, when University President Nicholas Murray Butler [Class of 1882, Class of 1884 GSAS] awarded our diplomas in an unusually intimate ceremony, well in advance of the scheduled June 1944 Commencement.

We heard from **William Strunin**g, who writes, "Following service during WWII, I worked in various phases of industrial marketing sales, new product development and marketing/economic research, and in various fields, for example, thread and cordage building products, chemicals and vending machines. I started teaching, drawing heavily from industrial experience, in 1955 and continued to do so for nearly a half-century, most recently at Seton Hall. However, I remained active in business, largely in the coffee industry. My employers included Pan-American Coffee Bureau, International Coffee Organization and Kraft Foods. Since retirement, I have prepared statistical analyses for a few coffee clients, reviewed texts for several library associations and enjoyed spending time with my family."

Henry Rolf Hecht, my predecessor as class correspondent, soldiers on, advising: "I'm still around, and I think my mind still functions reasonably OK. But physically I'm frail and need help moving around. I'd love to get to the reunion but don't see how I can make it. My granddaughter, Lisa, will have finished all her studies and interning by the time this comes out and will be a full-fledged doctor of veterinary medicine."

Bruce Mazlish writes, "My marriage to Neva Goodwin is heading toward its 33rd year. My four children are doing well. My son Tony and his family live in Somerset, Md., and recently visited Cyprus … His three children — my grandchildren — are doing well at Sidwell Friends School in Washington, D.C. My son Jared is in Breckinridge, Colo., where he designs, manufactures and markets his Fat-ypus skis. I recommend them for anyone who enjoys skiing. His sons, Jacob (3½) and Caleb (1½), have been on skis and Jacob has been on hockey skates. Jacob also has put together a 97-piece puzzle.

"As for my professional life, I keep trying to write (though with faltering vitality), especially on globalization. Also recently got word that my 2004 book, *Civilization and Its Contents*, is to be translated and published in Arabic, thus joining a translation into Chinese.

"Otherwise, it's one step in front of the other."

Finally, my self-deprecating, indefatigable pal Dr. **Dan Choy** reports: "Did I tell you I was appointed as an unofficial consultant to [one of the labs] in the new Mortimer B. Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute? Obviously it was because of my good looks and endearing personality because I certainly don't have the brains for the post (plus I am almost 88 and two years post-retirement). [As of this writing I was] also supposed to give a talk to the Classes of '44 and '49 at the reunion luncheon on Saturday, May 31."

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 28–31, 2015
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I received the following from **Henry Shinefield:**

"As a member of the 1944 Varsity Show cast, I was thrilled to see the expansive tribute to Varsity Show history in the Spring 2014 *Columbia College Today*. It stirred many memories, which resulted in visions of the past in remarkable clarity. Bob Felson '48 and I were Barnard Lovelies in a skit … Bob and I were also members of the traditional Pony Ballet. The show and the music for *On the Double* were, in the main, written and directed by Alby Sherwin '42, a great



Members of the Class of 1946 and their wives gathered in October for lunch at a French bistro in Midtown. Seated, left to right: Irwin Nydick, Howard Cohen, Len Moss, Aihud Pevsner and Mel Holson; and standing, left to right: Barney Zumoff, Ellie Nydick, Muriel Moss, Lucille Pevsner, Ira Millstein, Phyllis Holson, Richard Heffner, Marjory Cohen and Marge Sunshine.
PHOTO: BERNARD SUNSHINE '46

pianist. The show was a sellout and a great thespian success.

"The 1944 show was the 50th Varsity Show, and as I write, I plan in May to see the 120th."

Things have been quiet lately but I know that our class' stalwart members have news to report and remembrances to share. You may submit notes to either address at the top of the column, or through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

I look forward to hearing from you.

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Herbert Gold keeps rolling along, and his new book, *His First Murder,* will appear on bookstands shortly. Herb says the novel, his 24th, is a study of a 21st-century psychopath.

The Columbia University Archives is housed in the Rare Book & Manuscript Library in Butler Library (South Hall). Wandering through the collection recently, I came across the 1944–45 College catalogue of courses. Names of faculty greats popped off the pages and it turned into a walk down memory lane. In addition to courses in Chinese, Japanese, classic and Romance languages, there were some in Arabic, Polish, Romanian, Russian and Sanskrit.

Navy V-12 was a large part of the College's student body and this course description caught my eye: "Navy English 1 and 2 — not open to civilian students. Modern usage, grammar, idiom, sentence structure, punctuation, spelling, effective paragraphs. The aim of this course is to teach the student to say and write what he means concisely and with a purpose."

Were civilians kept out because military secrets were hidden in the course's content?

Virtually unmanageable forest fires in the West brought the following from **John McConnell** in Post Falls, Idaho: "When you hear and read of 180-plus square miles of flaming forests and timber in just one location, look at a map of New York City and figure the square miles of Manhattan or any of the boroughs. Try to imagine what a fire covering that area would do. Yes, it's the real West and quite common during dry, hot weather. Lightning strikes are a common cause, apparently, but carelessness by individuals can be just as catastrophic. Locally, 'dry farmers' of grains and so forth have 'controlled burns,' tank trucks and equipment at the ready in anticipation of fire."

With regret I report the passing of **Norman Cohen** '48 Business. Norman was a CPA. He published a weekly newspaper and was also an adviser to businesses. He took particular pride and satisfaction from his work volunteering as a mentor to troubled and at-risk teens.

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Ed McAvoy got in touch via email and phone. He shared a long note, which he titled "Columbia Alumni Club & Biosphere Memories":

"I read with great interest the profile in the Fall 2013 issue of Wm. Theodore 'Ted' de Bary ['41, '53 GSAS], a charter member of the Hickory Hill Cooperative. It brought back memories of Hickory Hill and of my effort years later to help improve the Tucson-area image of Biosphere2, a Columbia University research program.

"I am a 1949 charter member of Hickory Hill, a housing complex in Tappan, N.Y., that was an offshoot of a Columbia project called Shanks Village. The severe housing shortage in metro New York after WWII encouraged CU to convince the government to convert the thousands of acres of what had been the largest East Coast port of embarkation for Army soldiers headed to Europe — Camp Shanks in Orangeburg (Rockland County), N.Y. — into a housing facility of about 1,500 affordable apartments for faculty, staff and students.

"This was accomplished by converting about 500 of the large barracks into one- and two-bedroom units — rent was $38.50 per month and included a kerosene space heater and a stall shower! Probably 10,000 families from across the United States lived in the project during Shanks Village's 'life.' Most of them were discharged service members who were returning to the academic world to earn their graduate degrees. I was a 23-year-old married College student seeking a B.A. Most residents were closer to 30.

"In 1948, 65 Shanks Village families, wanting to remain in Rockland County, formed the Northern Valley Homes Association. For two years this group studied 200 available tracts of land, financing, membership rules and architectural plans. Eventually 32 families invested $1,000 each into Hickory Hill Cooperative (HH1).

"Fifty percent of the members of HH1 were CU families and construction was successfully completed in 1952. Columbia members included Ted de Bary, Henry Magid ['38, '41 GSAS], John Landgraf ['51 GSAS], William Hadley ['38, '39E, '41E], Danforth Toan ['49 Arch.], George Furey ['37], Dr. Robert Weiss ['51 P&S] and Dr. Maus Darling ['47 Dental]. The students were myself, Arnold Frank ['47 Business, '50 Business], Walter Wileikis ['57 GSAS] and Eliot Tozer ['49 GSAS]. Also participating were CU machinist Lloyd Dutton and CU professor Frank Lear. In 1975 contiguous land was acquired and a Community House and 30 retirement townhouses were constructed (HH2). That addition included an affiliation with HH1.

"In 1991 my wife, Norma, and I moved to Hong Kong for three years, where I was advertising director of the one-million circulation *Asia Magazine* and publisher of *The International Weekly South China Morning Post,* which I launched. We developed readers in 60 countries and it was a successful, world-class newspaper with 14,000 subscribers and total circulation of about 20,000. Then something called the Internet arrived and the beautiful, 24-page, full-color, two-section weekly went digital.

"I had a wonderful 55-year career in publishing with several of the world's leading newspapers and magazine companies (including 20 years with *The New York Times*) and ended in 1993 as publisher of *The International Weekly South China Morning Post* based in Hong Kong.

"Norma and I returned to Hickory Hill in 1995 and in 1997 moved to Tucson. We became active in a senior Humanities Seminar program sponsored by the University of Arizona (UofA) and I was nominated to the Board of Directors of the Advisory Committee of the university's College of Humanities. In addition, our close friends Minnie and Bob Weiss came to Tucson every winter for several months and joined the seminar program. Bob had retired from Columbia as dean of the School of Public Health and retained close ties with the University.

"CU was also managing the spectacular Biosphere2 campus in Oracle, Ariz. Bob and I visited the campus and met with the president, whom he knew. We discussed the poor reputation Biosphere2 had in the area because of fraud committed by the previous owners and CU's efforts to reverse this negative image. Bob suggested that the presence of a Columbia alumni club would help achieve a better regional impression and he knew just the man to start and develop one — me!

"I asked for time to investigate the possibility of an alumni club being successful and contacted a friend in the Alumni Office. I was able, by ZIP code analysis, to discover that there was a potential universe of about 800 alumni to tap from the University's many schools. I also had the cooperation of Alumni Office personnel and did several mailings to develop paid membership. Within a couple of months, Pam Parry '71 GSAS, '73 LS and I signed up more than 125 paying members from 20 CU schools! We had a monthly luncheon meeting during the school year at the prestigious Arizona Inn and had exceptional speakers.

"These events started with UofA president Peter Likins. Peter had been a Columbia professor, provost and a protégé of Ted's in the '60s. He was followed by the then-CU

executive vice provost, Michael Crow, who at that time handled the Biosphere2 program from New York. Michael later became president of ASU. An executive of Teachers College also spoke as did other senior professors and administrators, including noted UofA professor and Nobel Prize Award recipient Jonathan Overpeck.

"The response in Tucson was wonderful! We averaged more than 90 alumni and guests for each luncheon. Tucson press and PR efforts were most rewarding and I believe the Columbia University Club of Southern Arizona more than achieved its goal. Biosphere2 personnel were very cooperative and sponsored several superb functions for club members during the years I was president. The club still exists and Biosphere2 is now a division of UofA.

"Norma and I left Tucson in 2004 and returned to Hickory Hill. She passed away in 2010; we were married for 65 years.

"I've resettled in Turners Falls, Mass., with a new life partner, Lynn Hoffman. We built an apartment/suite in my daughter's home and enjoy local cuisine and life in the area. Lynn is an internationally known family therapist and has lectured worldwide.

"She and I are both from Rockland County, N.Y., and crossed paths many times at 35,000 feet but never met until 2011."

Dr. **Nicholas Giosa** writes, "My thoughts for the day: During a lifetime of looking at the human parade, I have compiled some 140 poems and am looking for a publisher before my allotted time comes to an end. Any help out there? Meanwhile, embrace and celebrate each day."

Cyrus Bloom called in. He shares: "I and my wife, Nan, have moved from South Orange, N.J., to Philadelphia to be closer to our sons, Joshua '85 and Thomas '93, both of whom live there. Our new address is 1520 Spruce St., Apt. 701, Philadelphia, PA 19102; email: cyrusjbloom@gmail.com."

CCT, and your classmates, would love to hear from more of you. Please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory — using either the email or postal address at the top of the column. You also can send news online using *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

This column is a wonderful way for the class to stay connected but *CCT* needs a class correspondent to write it. If you are interested, please contact Alexis Tonti '11 Arts, managing editor: alt2129@columbia.edu or 212-851-7485.

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Columbia College Today
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Dr. **Bob Silbert** writes, "My wife and I live on Riverside Drive and West 90th Street, barely a mile from the college where I spent so much time. I lived on campus with my roommates, **Sam Hoch** ['52 P&S] and **Bob Mellins.** Unfortunately, Bob passed away in late 2012 after a rewarding and successful career as a pediatric pulmonologist at [what was then called] Babies Hospital [now known as Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of NewYork-Presbyterian], where he had helped to set up the country's first pediatric pulmonary department. Sam has been a psychiatrist in San Francisco after serving in the Army in Korea. I stayed in NYC for my psychiatric training and opened my private office in 1959. I had hospital appointments at Presbyterian Hospital and later at New York Hospital (today they are joined as NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital). I retired in 2003, having had my fill of dealing with insurance companies.

Nicholas Giosa '47 has compiled some 140 poems and is looking for a publisher: "Any help out there? Meanwhile, embrace and celebrate each day."

"I felt well prepared by Columbia for my career as a physician and psychoanalyst (as Sam was) and feel my undergraduate training is so different from what my grandchildren are experiencing. I can walk through the Met Museum and view the European galleries and almost always know who did what painting. I am not alone in this. Our current college kids are not really being educated; they are being trained.

"Today, in so many colleges, liberal arts courses are not highlighted. My first grandson was told to drop those courses and take courses that would help him get a job. (My second grandchild is applying to colleges.) We are educating future workers and the emphasis is on what courses will be best suited to help them do that. As much as I understand that, it seems to me that there is a huge educational loss in the arts and humanities and I gather it is generally so in many colleges. It is a loss and a sad one. Not all change is progress.

"Family is basically the same."

John Kuhn writes, "Recently sold my former home in Norwood, N.J., as my last connection with the north. Been in Gautier, Miss., since 1999. We had a cold winter, too. Nothing really new to report but still around at 88."

Arthur Kunin, who lives in Shelburne, Vt., also is 88. He writes, "In fall 1945, just discharged from an Army hospital and two days before classes started, I recall the faith and kindness of admissions officer Bernard Ireland ['31, '35 GSAS] admitting yet another first-generation Jewish boy from Brooklyn to Columbia College. Subsequently, my three brothers, two cousins and son were successively admitted. Initially destined to be a history major, I graduated Phi Beta Kappa and took the least resistant road to The University of Vermont College of Medicine. After years of clinical and research training at Harvard, I was appointed to the medical staff at Vermont and spent 40 years as an investigator in renal physiology, as a clinician and teacher, and as the spouse of the first female Democratic governor of Vermont [Madeleine May Kunin '57J]. All told, my most significant education took place in the Humanities and Contemporary Civilization courses at Columbia. What did Robert Frost say about 'the crossroads'?"

Seth Rubenstein, of Brooklyn, N.Y., writes, "I am plugging away 5½ days a week (on Saturdays I leave after I read the mail), trying to make a living practicing probate law. My vacation comes during the two weeks in August and September that the U.S. Open is in town.

"Whatever happened to Butch Seewagen?

"I feel gratitude to Columbia daily, particularly when I read the work product of young lawyers who do not know not to split infinitives or that contrary to fact requires the subjunctive."

Also in Brooklyn is **Heywood Shelley** '50L: "I was hit by a car four years ago and I lost my right leg at the knee so I am either in a wheelchair or walking on a prosthesis. I am dependent on my aide or my wife, Maritza, to leave my wheelchair.

"I spent five years at Columbia after my return from the Army as follows: one year finishing my College curriculum, three years at the Law School (Class of '50 by virtue of the professional option, which provided that my first year of law school counted as the last year of college) and then finally, one year as an associate in law at the Law School, which [consisted of] meeting with the law school class. There were 300 in the class. I met with the students in small groups to ameliorate the fact that the class was [so large].

"While at the College I had a course in Shakespeare with Mark Van Doren ['21 GSAS] and one of my fellow students said, 'The only thing about Shakespeare is it's full of clichés.'

"After my five years at Columbia I joined the law firm that Franklin Delano Roosevelt belonged to. I cherish my copy of the law firm's communication to FDR saying: 'If you join us, as you know, for the first year you don't get paid. Thereafter, if you remain with us, you will get compensation but it would be of necessity rather small.'

"The highlights of my career as an attorney: I represented the New York Mets and thereafter got a call from one of the Yankees' owners saying that he understood that I was the world's greatest authority on stadium leases and invited me to do the same job for the Yankees that I had done for the Mets. However, at the first meeting I learned that while Yankee Stadium was being renovated, the Yankees were planning to play at Shea Stadium so I would have a conflict of interest. So I declined the offer from the Yankees.

"Going on with my career, I was elected to the Board of Directors of four listed public companies. Another of the highlights of my career is that I had dinner with Prince Charles at St. James's Palace in London. He had been told that I was a New York lawyer and he said, 'Well, you Americans are more litigious than we are.' And the reason for that, which I figured out later on, is that in the United Kingdom if you lose the case you have to pay not only your own legal fees but also the winning party's legal fees.

"Another highlight of my career was that I represented the Bush and Walker families in connection with their Kennebunkport properties. I got a nice letter from George Herbert Walker Bush, the first President Bush, thanking me for my 'innovative' work in connection with Kennebunkport, keeping it in the Bush or Walker families.

"I now spend an important part of my time with my descendants: My daughter, Alexandra ['96 Arts], and her daughter, Lily. As I write this, Lily was to sing with her school chorus at Lincoln Center on the weekend."

CCT, and the class, would love to hear from more of you. Please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia

College memory — using either the email or postal address at the top of the column. You also can send news online using *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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It is always deeply gratifying to learn of a classmate's significant contribution to matters of great import to our lives and our nation. Once again I've heard from **Joe Russell** of such an occasion, and I have the privilege of passing the news on to you. I quote below in an edited version of his lengthy note. If any of you are interested in the full text, which fleshes out the process, names of his collaborators and details of the cases, please email me and I will forward your request to him.

Joe writes, "Today's *New York Times* (March 9) editorially celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Supreme Court's landmark decision adding strength to the First Amendment's promise of press freedom in the case *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*. That has particular significance for me, as the court also ruled in favor of its companion case, *Abernathy v. Sullivan*, at the same time, and I had done most of the paperwork necessary to bring that matter before the court and obtain the final result.

"I volunteered to draft the Petition for Certiorari, a writ from the Supreme Court allowing our *pro bono* clients' case to be accepted, and did so during several weeks of a family vacation during summer 1962. My draft was reviewed with another partner, Benjamin Spiegel '38L, now deceased, who assisted with his extensive knowledge of First Amendment law, and Harry Wachtel ['40L] added a bit of fire and brimstone to the opening argument. The final petition was printed, filed and served in November 1962, and the writ was granted in early January 1963.

"Our case was argued to the Supreme Court by former U.S. Attorney General William Rogers and former New York State Judge Samuel Pierce on the same morning that Columbia law professor Herbert Wechsler ['31L] and soon-to-be U.S. District Court Judge Marvin Frankel argued the *Times*' appeal.

"After the court adjourned, we were joined by our clients and the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. at a nearby hotel to unwind, to hope for a favorable result and to accept thanks for what we had done through that day. The result was truly gratifying. We felt that justice had been done in a significant cause."

Word of an early March event — "Fear, Freedom: Dark Past, Brighter Future," a conversation with **Richard Sachs** — regrettably reached me too late to attend. But according to the information describing the evening, Richard read from his memoir of a closeted life in the tumultuous world of the 1940s and the decades following. He also talked about the fictitious safety of marriage, children and a family business, and how, after slowly emerging from the closet at 58, he now has a second, happy marriage to a man he loves. Richard was interviewed by prominent author-journalist Eric Marcus, and Dean Jeffrey Peck of the CUNY Weissman School of Arts and Sciences at Baruch College moderated the Q&A program.

Richard reports, "It was a successful event with a nice crowd of different ages, affiliations and so on. The response was gratifying. I'm finishing the memoir and have an agent looking for publishers."

Richard's courage, creativity and participation in the forward march of social and political progress continue to be a source of pride for our class.

On a lighter note — but no less significant, as we get to hold our heads high on the athletics front infrequently — **Gene Straube** reports that the Columbia men's basketball team made it into the postseason for the first time since 1968, reaching the quarterfinals of the CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament and finishing the season with a 21–13 record. We are grateful to Gene for keeping us posted on things that make us smile.

This column thanks the contributors for keeping us posted on things that matter. Keep the cards and letters coming and have a joyous summer.

What's Your Story?

Letting classmates know what's going on in your life is easier than ever. Send in your Class Notes!

ONLINE by clicking college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

EMAIL to the address at the top of your column.

MAIL to the address at the top of your column.

REUNION WEEKEND
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Rudy Weingartner has joined the ranks of the bloggers. To read his work, go to rhweingartner.blogspot.com and sign in.

Sad to report the passing of two classmates. **Joseph A. Mehan** of Fort Myers, Fla., died in December 2013 (see Obituaries), and **Harry W. Pauley** of Newburg, Pa., died in February 2014.

The mailbag was far too light this time around. Your classmates want to hear from you. Consider sending an update to either of the addresses at the top of the column, or submit a note via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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Robert Snyder, our class president, is seeking classmates to join him at periodic lunches to be held at the Columbia University Club of New York (15 W. 43rd St., between Fifth and Sixth Avenues). This will be a good way to keep in touch and share news with one another. Bob is suggesting that — starting in September — we meet monthly, or every six weeks or so, on a Thursday, noon–2 p.m. Given the club's convenient location and the excellent public transportation in the metropolitan area, everyone in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut can join. Please telephone Bob at 212-751-1106 or on his cell, 347-886-2309; or email him at roberttsnyder@gmail.com to express your interest. (Be sure to include the double "t" in the email address.)

Members of the NROTC from the Class of 1951 held their 63rd reunion in Jacksonville, Fla., February 18–20. **Leonard Stoehr** provided the following, which has been excerpted from a six-page report.

The group was hosted at NS Mayport. Following a greeting from the station commanding officer, Capt. Wes McCall, the visiting Columbians toured oceanfront base housing, aircraft maintenance facilities and current aircraft on the flight line. After touring the harbor where an AEGIS cruiser was at anchor, along with the moored *USS New York* (LPD-21), the Navy veterans were hosted by the Chiefs' Club and enjoyed a delicious fried chicken buffet.

In addition to Len and his wife, Jan, participants included **Jim Lowe,** Ed Soohoo '50, **Merritt Rhoad** and Peg Bachman, and Phil Bergovoy '50 and his wife, Hindy. **"Tex" McNallen,** who was diagnosed with walking pneumonia at the last minute, was unable to attend but sent along this advice to the group: (1) Don't get old in your attitude and outlook, (2) Don't get depressed, (3) Don't criticize and (4) Don't complain.

A while back your correspondent missed a deadline. It was the first miss since the 40th reunion of our class, and the *CCT* staff was kind enough to note my lack of news with a brief paragraph requesting help. **Ronald G. Granger** '54 Dental responded. His career included a Navy experience for which he now holds the rank of retired naval captain, and he is retired from a professorship and department chair at Boston University.

Ron and his lovely wife, Evie, celebrated their 60th anniversary last September with a 14-day Baltic cruise. They were accompanied by two of their daughters (they have five children), six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Evie has cousins in Stockholm, so they spent three days there before the cruise, which visited 11 countries. The weather was perfect and three days in London capped a wonderful travel experience. The Grangers live in Boynton Beach, Fla., during the winter but escape to Maine in the summer to do vegetable gardening and woodworking.

Ted Bihuniak and his wife, Marilyn, moved from Connecticut to Cypress Cove in Fort Myers, Fla., and enjoy the warmer weather. Although they miss not having the whole family near, they do have some granddaughters close by. Ted reports that their kids of every age are pursuing careers in the United States and overseas in the fields of engineering and international business. Ted and your correspondent were both in Japan with the 98th Bomb Wing (B-29s) during the Korean War.

William A. Billingham continued his education at Penn, where he earned a D.D.S. He and his wife, Kay, reside in Syracuse, N.Y., but catch some Florida time in winter.

He is looking forward to his 60th reunion at Penn's Dental School this year, plays volleyball at the YMCA and saves time for three married children and 10 grandchildren. Recently Bill learned of the death of John Leahy '53, '54E, who was the stroke on their shell while he was the coxswain. They remained close friends, like so many Columbians, as the years went by.

Here's a further note on **Robert Osnos,** who played 150-lb. football. Although called "a star" in this column in the Spring *CCT,* Bob wanted to note that the team's record was 0–5, the coach was p.o.'d and there were no stars in sight! He is already looking forward to our 65th reunion, Thursday, June 2–Sunday June 5, 2016. Could he possibly be the organizer?

Here is a vital statistic. Our class numbered more than 600 when we entered Columbia in September 1947. Between drop-outs, transfers, requests to not be contacted, classmates of unknown location and classmates who have died, the current mailing list now has 230. With sadness we note the deaths of **Allan W. Robbins, George E. Chase** and **Chester M. Edelmann Jr.**

Keep in touch! News is always appreciated. And don't forget to send in your contribution to *CCT* before the University's fiscal year ends on Monday, June 30. You may give by credit card at college.columbia.edu/cct/giving or by calling 212-851-7852, or mail a check, payable to Columbia College Today, to *Columbia College Today,* Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 6th Fl., New York, NY 10025.

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Pete Vayda writes, "Between now and September 2016, I'll be splitting time between my home in New York and stints in Indonesia, where I'm heading the 'human actions' component of a research project on peatland fires and carbon emissions. The project is funded by a NASA grant to South Dakota State University."

Carl Meier '56 P&S writes, "My wife, Gail '55 Nursing, and I were married in 1955 and are still together 59 years later. I joined the Navy in 1957 and retired in 1981 after 24 years of active and reserve service. We moved to central New Jersey in 1959, where I joined a small family medical practice. In 1974, Somerset Medical Center in Somerville, N.J. — a teaching affiliate of Robert Wood Johnson Medical School — asked me to start a graduate residency program in family medicine. The program was approved and accepted its first medical school graduates several years later. I remained the director of the program for 19 years, retiring in 1995 as an assistant professor of family medicine.

To pursue a research project, Pete Vayda '52 will split his time between his home in New York and Indonesia for the next few years.

"After living in Sanibel, Fla., for 18 years, we moved to the mainland and now reside in a Christian Continuing Care Retirement Community in Ft. Myers, Fla. We have three children, one each in corporate, medical and software endeavors, and five grandchildren. We are still able to travel and would enjoy having classmates visit."

This column is a wonderful way for the class to stay connected but *CCT* needs a class correspondent to write it. If you are interested, please contact Alexis Tonti '11 Arts, managing editor: alt2129@columbia.edu or 212-851-7485. In the meantime you may submit notes to either address at the top of the column or through CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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Early this April, I received the following email from **George Lowry:** "Last week I went to campus to see and hear **Mike Sovern,** who was being honored for the publication of his book, *An Improbable Life: My 60 Years at Columbia.* A few classmates were there — **Pete Carbonara, Pete Pellet, Marty Rabinowitz** — and probably some I missed, as it was a big crowd. Very interesting book. Turns out Mike was (and is) an even more important man than I thought."

George was also kind enough to send a copy of Mike's fascinating book, which is filled with anecdotes about Mike's life as the dean of the Law School and later as the president of the University. In the chapter "Becoming A Dean" he writes: "One of my favorite innovations as dean was to take half of the enormous men's room on the first floor [of the Law School] and convert it into a women's room. When asked what to do with the urinals, I suggested that we put flowers in them."

Mike relates that he was especially proud of having helped to select Ruth Bader Ginsburg '59L as the first woman to become a member of the Law School faculty. He also was instrumental in promoting two women as the first two female Law School deans.

Of his time as an undergraduate, Mike describes events that many of us will remember. For example, he writes, "On occasional Saturday nights we could, for five dollars a couple, attend dances with a live band and a headlining vocalist. I still remember a thrilling performance by Édith Piaf. The fact that I was a clumsy dancer didn't stop me from having a good time."

In those days, every College student had to take two science courses. Mike selected calculus and psychology. He writes that the psychology course was taught by a modest congenial professor, Fred Keller, and involved spending four hours a week in a lab, learning about conditioning. Describing his experience, Mike writes of feeding rats in a glass Skinner box "which had a levered bar and a small opening to receive food pellets. The beginning exercise called for us to give the rat a pellet every time it pushed the bar. … [a]s boredom took hold and my mind wandered, I conceived of a cartoon with two rats in a Skinner box, one saying to the other: 'Have I got this kid conditioned; every time I hit the bar, he gives me a pellet!'"

A friend of Mike's found someone to draw this cartoon for *Jester,* and many years later Mike's daughter called him from college to tell him she had found the cartoon in her psychology textbook.

According to Mike there is an apocryphal tale about Columbia's 13th president, Dwight D. Eisenhower. When asked why he left the presidency of Columbia for the presidency of the United States, Eisenhower replied, "I couldn't stand the politics."

I'm sure that reading Mike's book about his "improbable life" will evoke images of our wonderful life at the College. Several years after we graduated, I had dinner with Dean Harry Carman and his wife, Margaret, at a Chinese restaurant on West 125th Street and Broadway. Afterward, as we walked along Broadway, I said to the dean, "How can I ever thank you for the things you have done to help me?"

I've never forgotten his answer. "Just pass it along, Lew," he said. "Just pass it along."

Reading the text of Mike's book makes it clear that he is a classmate who has spent his adult life passing it along to many, many others.

In sad news, **Arthur Elkind** reports that Dr. **Harold Abrams** of Trumbull, Conn., died in March 2013. He is survived by his wife, Carol, and three children.

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By the time you read this, our class will have celebrated our 60th anniversary of graduation from alma mater. In the words of our class president, **Bernd Brecher,** we will have partied, celebrated and commemorated a cumulative 24,000 years of Core-directed lives on this planet. Stay tuned for the next issue of *CCT* for a full report. In the meantime, several classmates have let us know of some of their activities.

Jim King enjoys spending his time in both his Garden City (Long Island), N.Y., and Sanibel, Fla., homes. He has published a book, *From Brooklyn to the World: A Fun Trip.* As one newspaper described it, "The book recalls an odyssey of growing up in Brooklyn in the 1930s and 1940s, playing big-time college baseball."

I know that I will buy his book, as profits go to the charity of Jim's longtime friend, famed Brooklyn Dodger pitcher Carl Erskine, and his Madison County branch of the Indiana Special Olympics.

George Goldstein and his wife have moved from New York to Boca Raton, Fla. While they remain fans of the Mets, Yankees, Jets and Giants, George says they are enjoying the better weather. He retired from a career in medicine and the pharmaceutical research industry for the attractions of being a "history buff, museum docent, bridge player, amateur movie critic and so on." George is also involved with a lifelong learning society at a local university. While he didn't think he'd be able to make our 60th reunion, he hopes to make our 65th.

Phil Bonanno has been happily retired for 15 years; he and his wife live on Cape Cod but spend winters in Naples, Fla. Phil was a civil engineer in heavy construction and was fortunate enough to be involved in some interesting projects including Boston's "Big Dig" and the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge in New York. He has been doing arbitration work on construction issues

and dispute review boards.

Phil and his wife enjoy his retirement and now spend more time with their children and grandchildren. He adds, "Sure have much to thank Columbia for — the wonderful education and meeting so many wonderful friends. … My regards to all classmates."

Ed Cowan and his wife, Ann Louise, recently drove to Florida for a week of spring training, where they watched the Washington Nationals drill and practice. They were joined by **Don Crabill** and his wife, Mary. They also watched their team play two games; the Nats won both. All four were happy.

Bruce Glaser resides in Fairfield, Conn., and teaches art history at a local college part-time. As Bruce puts it, he spends much of his time "gardening, reading and as a serious foodie." He also takes jaunts to NYC, walking old neighborhoods in Brooklyn and Manhattan, and says he is utterly astonished by their transformation, with museums, art galleries and more.

I was happy to hear from **Charles Ehren,** who noted that "after many years of law teaching and deaning," he retired with his wife, Joan, to East Hampton in 1997. Both have been active in local civic and political affairs.

When I was working, I often got together with **Kamel Bahary** in midtown Manhattan. He shares, "I retired recently and I plan to travel with [my wife,] Susan."

We have had great reunions and I'm sure this one will have been great as well. Until next time!

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 28–31, 2015

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A lot of things are going on, both within and outside the gates of College Walk, making the University one of the most exciting schools of learning in the world. Producer Dede Gardner '90 and actress Devyn Tyler '13 were part of the Academy Award-winning film *12 Years a Slave.* University Trustee Ben Horowitz '88 was featured in a *New York Times* article about his new book, *The Hard Thing About Hard Things: Building a Business When There Are No Easy Answers.*

In early March, five alumni were each presented a coveted John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement. One of the attendees was **Allen Hyman,** who cheered on Dr. Robert Lefkowitz '62, '66 P&S.

Also in March, mathematics and physics professor Brian Greene launched two online courses as part of his new online teaching initiative, World Science University.

In the travel world, the Columbia Alumni Association is offering a special small-group trip, "Classic Greek Isles," including stops at Crete and other Greek locales. It will take place in late August, crossing into early September, and promises to be a terrific venture for the attendees.

The Sundance Film Festival, in which Columbia does very well, took place in Park City, Utah, in January; more than 60 Columbia filmmakers entered the competition.

The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science celebrated its 150th anniversary this year — "You've come a long way, baby." **Jack Freeman '55E** and **Bob Pearlman '55E** were pleased with the festivities.

According to a December article in *USA Today,* Bill Campbell '62, '64 TC is "Silicon Valley's Secret CEO Whisperer." On a related note, Jonathan Schiller '69, '73L was selected to co-chair Columbia University's Board of Trustees, serving alongside Bill. With the basketball team doing so well, we recall that Jon was a member of the nationally ranked team in 1969.

The school has entered into a contract with edX for online learning — the first course (online) will be on the Civil War, with the DeWitt Clinton Professor of History Eric Foner '63, '69 GSAS.

We're starting to hear more and more from our classmates as our 60th reunion approaches.

Sven Johnson is still involved with Toys for Tots, sponsored by the Marine Corps. We continue to hear from our San Francisco brethren, including, among others, **Stanley Lubman,** whom we hope will come to the reunion, and **Henry Cohen,** who is a big fan of Professor Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, '53 GSAS; Henry has donated original prints titled "Mishima," by Nathan Lerner, in honor of the professor. More information on the life and trials of Henry will appear in the next issue of *CCT.*

We also hope to see **Bernie Kirtman** (good buddy of **Bill Epstein**) next June as well as **Bill Mink** (and his high school classmate **Bob Brown**).

Bob Bernot, who lives in North Hill, N.Y., has retired but continues to teach Columbia medical students. **Michael Goldstein '55E** requested an article from *Spectator* (as fierce as ever) on Columbia football.

Fred Brooks '56 and his wife, Jane, donated their Asian art collection, including Tang Dynasty treasures, to the Bruce Museum in Greenwich, Conn.

Your scribe promises it will be given to Michael in person at the reunion, if not sooner. **Jack Stuppin** is still painting and living in Sebastopol, Calif. According to Jack, "Since I helped start Silicon Valley, it is very exciting to be in the first Silicon Valley Art Fair." **Bill Langston** says he will definitely come east to see the campus in 2015.

Don Laufer and **Alfred Gollomp** have taken a "breather" from the monthly class dinners to visit Israel. We will all get together upon their return, along with **Ron Spitz, Alan Hoffman, Elliot Gross, Roland Plottel, Tony DiSanto, Bob Schiff, Chuck Solomon** (doing alumni "stuff" for the Dental School), **Anthony Viscusi** and more. Others who will join the throng are **Steve Rabin, Ralph Wagner** and **Bob Dillingham,** plus some surprise guests.

We are sad to report that **Marty Gottfried** (theater critic for *The New York Post*) passed away in March. Condolences go to Marty's friends and relatives.

Fabulous classmates in the Class of 1955.

The big 6-0 is almost upon us.

Good food, good company, great social events and more.

It will be better than Freshmen Week. Plans are under way. Get in shape for the times of your lives.

Love to all! Everywhere!

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On February 6, I attended the annual Dean's Scholarship Reception, where our Class of '56 scholars meet and share stories, questions and observations with our class members. It is certainly one of the more satisfying Columbia events that I attend. This year, **Dan Link** and I represented our class. We had our first official Class of 1956 Alan N. Miller Scholarship Fund recipient, Marilyn Minton '17; she was unable to attend the reception but wrote a wonderful letter about the importance of our class' scholarship funds to her in particular as well as to all the Columbia scholarship recipients. In addition, we now have four Class of 1956 Scholarship Fund recipients: Alexandra O'Hagan '14 from Redondo Beach, Calif.; Daniel Shi '15 from Clarksville, Md.; Gregory Rempe '16 from Albuquerque; and Alex Jastrzab '17 from Staten Island (he is a graduate of Bronx Science, to which many of our class members can relate).

On February 23, we had our annual Florida alumni luncheon. **Lou Hemmerdinger** writes his thoughts on this year's event, as, unfortunately, I was unable to attend: "We had our Sunday class brunch at Prime Catch on the intracoastal waterway in Boynton Beach, Fla. In attendance were **Dan Link** and his wife, Elinor; **Stan Manne** and his wife, Fern; **Lou Hemmerdinger** and his wife, Anita; **Bob Siroty** and his wife, Margo; **Marty Mayer** and his wife, Susan; **Murray Eskenazi** and his wife, Joan; **Gershon Vincow** and his wife, Dina; and **Mike Spett.** It was a very happy affair, rekindling friendships and with lots of good memories and new stories shared among the group."

We look forward to holding next year's get-together at **Ed Botwinick**'s, which I hope, and God willing, I will attend.

At this writing we are planning our spring and summer class luncheons at, respectively, the Columbia University Club of New York, Faculty House (on campus) and **Dan Link**'s golf and country club in Larchmont, N.Y. Please contact me for details or to add your name to the list of class members who wish to be notified of the luncheons.

Frederick Lippman, chancellor of the Health Professions Division of Nova Southeastern University, has "been appointed to the board of Florida TaxWatch."

Guy Castle writes, "Enjoy reading Class Notes and looking forward to the next reunion. Survived lung cancer and am enjoying country life with my husband of 54 years (partner for 52, husband for two). I trust that 1956 can increase donations [to Columbia] for 2014. Past years have been far too low!"

Fred Brooks, who lives in Greenwich, Conn., recently donated all of his and his wife Jane's Asian art collection, including Tang Dynasty treasures, to their local Bruce Museum. This collection was assembled from their travels not only to China but also to Japan and European countries that host major Chinese art collections. Collecting, sharing and giving is another way

we can all use our liberal arts Columbia education to benefit others.

Ron Kapon, our peripatetic oenophile, has recovered from knee surgery and was able to attend most of Columbia's basketball games during one of their best seasons.

In sad news, **Jerry Sturman** informed me that **Les Rabkin** passed away in January after a brief but overwhelming infection. A memorial service was held in Seattle and attended by more than 100 friends and family who celebrated his life and his outstanding contribution to his field of psychology and to his second love, film. All who knew Les will mourn his passing and miss his longstanding friendship. I send class condolences to his wife and family.

Also, sadly, **Arthur Bank** passed away in February. Arthur will be remembered as an active and interested class member and as an internationally recognized leader and major contributor in the field of hematology research. Arthur recently completed a book outlining his view of medicine, including his perspective on the responsibility of each medical doctor to his patient. I extend class condolences to his wife, Rona, and his family.

As always, please contact me or **Lou Hemmerdinger** (hemmer@aol.com) with news that you would like to share in Class Notes. Also, if you have changed your email or mailing address, please inform the *CCT* staff: college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus. This is part of our mission to keep all class members up to date on class news and activities.

A brief note on fundraising: Anyone who has not yet contributed can do so through Monday, June 30, the end of Columbia's fiscal year. Give by credit card at college.columbia.edu/giveonline or by calling the Alumni Office, 212-851-7488; or mail a check, payable to Columbia College Fund, to Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025.

I look forward to sharing many good memories with class members from the summer season.

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Michael Lipper reports that **Erik Eybye** died on December 20, 2013, in Paoli, Pa. He writes, "Erik at the time we graduated … was the midshipman commanding officer of our NROTC unit. He then went into the Navy as a junior officer. After that he went to work for Ford in its international activities. Subsequent to Ford he had a number of positions with some large companies. He and his wife, Lena, had a daughter [Marianne], who is a research scientist formerly with Merck. Her brother, Tom, is with Merrill Lynch in Summit, N.J. *The Philadelphia Inquirer* ran a brief obit [on December 23]." If you would like details, Tom may be contacted at tomeybye@gmail.com. Memorial contributions may be made to the Boy Scouts of America, 1325 W. Walnut Hill Ln., Irving, TX 75015-2079.

John Taussig shares, "The Southern California contingent of our class … met for lunch on January 25. As usual, we met at Parkers' Lighthouse in the Long Beach marina. We have made this a regular venue for our gatherings because with the Los Angeles and Orange County geographies so spread out, we find this locale … equidistant [or mutually inconvenient] for all [except] for **John Ahouse,** who lives in Long Beach.

"The weather was perfect. After all, this is Southern California. The conversation and [comradeship] continue, as we now meet about four times a year."

He continued with the following report about the classmates in attendance:

"**John Ahouse** accepted congratulations for the local press coverage of his recent gift to California State University, Dominguez Hills, of his comprehensive collection of books and ephemera concerning the life and writings of novelist and former gubernatorial candidate (1934) Upton Sinclair. CSUDH offers a program in labor history, for which Sinclair's work is a potential resource. Sinclair attended graduate school classes at Columbia in 1897–98 (at the beginning of the Nicholas Murray Butler [Class of 1882] era). Otherwise, John continues as docent at The Wende Museum in Culver City, Calif., where he lectures on the post-WWII division of Europe.

"**Kenneth Bodenstein** has been busy following the UCLA and Columbia tennis teams as they excel in their conferences. He was in NYC at Flushing Meadows last fall [watching] the Columbia men's doubles team win the National Indoor Intercollegiate Championships for the first time since the 1890s. It was a great event and Columbia had a noisy group of fans.

"**Mike Gold** heads the Virginia M. Woolf Foundation, which publishes large-print publications for the visually impaired as well as a newsletter for policemen and prosecutors. *The Law Enforcement Legal Reporter* [is sent] monthly to approximately 1,000 police personnel and departments and reports on current developments in criminal law.

"**Herbert Sturman** reports that his family is in good health. He works full-time and enjoys it. Herbert had a good year professionally in 2013 with good results against the IRS and the California Franchise Tax Board. He also received some prestigious awards recognizing his abilities as a tax lawyer. His current activities include, among others, working out every day, playing golf when he can break away from the office and playing bridge with his wife as his partner.

"**Eugene Wagner** moved to Pacific Palisades, Calif., 19 years ago after selling his oral care company. He developed oral care consumer products. Since then he has been living the life of bicoastal (NYC) retirement. When people ask him what life is like, he responds: 'It's like taking the course but not the exam.' Remember that at Columbia we always had to take the exam.

"**Gerry Werksman** practices law on a reduced basis and enjoys life in Southern California with his wife, Betty Teller '59 Barnard."

As for himself, **John Taussig** writes that he was "CEO of the consumer credit and direct marketing businesses of TRW, which were sold in 1996 and are now known as Experian. Since retiring in 1998 I have been an angel investor in start-up and early stage companies and am a co-founder of Tech Coast Angels, an organization consisting today of five chapters and 270 investors in Southern California. I enjoy the Southern California lifestyle and spending time with my three grandchildren. I am an avid racquetball player and enjoy playing in live (not online) poker tournaments."

Salvatore Salibello shares the following career recap: "Captain, Pan American World Airways (retired). Attorney-at-law, approved mediator and arbitration New Jersey Superior Court."

Yours truly was on vacation in Rome January 17–February 3. I visited many places but limit my comments to some highlights.

I explored the Eternal City mainly on foot, taking the Metropolitana (Metro) from near my hotel to the stop nearest to the area that I wanted to explore and then back. Going about on foot gives me the flavor of a city and turns up architectural gems. Every so often I encountered a little fountain or other decorative piece set in a niche in a building wall. Near the foot of the stairway leading down from the church of San Pietro in Vincolo (noted for the Michelangelo sculpture of Moses) to the Via Cavour, I found the exquisite little church of St. Mary of the Mountains (Santa Maria ai Monti), with a dome similar to that of the cathedral Duomo in Florence but without supports from the floor below.

My walks took me from the Vatican to the cathedral of St. John Lateran (San Giovanni Laterano) and from the Borghese Gardens to the Roman Forum and the adjoining huge monument to King Victor Emmanuel II (under whom Italy united in 1870). The king and his queen are buried in the Pantheon, some distance away. My Italian, albeit very limited, was invaluable for asking directions and some-

Columbia School Designations

In Class Notes, these designations indicate Columbia degrees from schools other than the College.

Arch.	School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
Arts	School of the Arts
Barnard	Barnard College
Business	Graduate School of Business
CE	School of Continuing Education
Dental	College of Dental Medicine
E	The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
GS	School of General Studies
GSAS	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
J	Graduate School of Journalism
L	School of Law
Nursing	School of Nursing
P&S	College of Physicians and Surgeons
PH	Mailman School of Public Health
SIPA	School of International and Public Affairs
SW	School of Social Work
TC	Teachers College

times for ordering meals.

I was among several thousand who attended one of Pope Francis' Wednesday morning audiences, held outdoors in St. Peter's Square. The pope entered in his popemobile, reaching out to many in the crowd close to him. He and his small entourage then mounted the rostrum. Seated as I was with my back to the rostrum, I saw the event on a large screen, probably more clearly than I would have from a distance without the screen. A priest translated the pope's address into English, French and German. Pope Francis addressed the crowd as "brothers and sisters," and at the end he thanked his audience. He noted the presence of several non-Catholic organizations in Rome, including the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago. This pope has a most magnetic and warm personality. The day before the audience I took a tour of the Vatican Museum, the Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Basilica.

Following the audience, I visited the Castel Sant'Angelo, generally a parallel to the Tower of London. It has served as a papal palace, a sanctuary for popes fleeing the Vatican during attacks via an aqueduct and a prison. It was especially interesting to me as the scene of the third and last act of the opera *La Tosca*. The castle also affords magnificent vistas of Rome, especially of the Vatican. In the vein of *La Tosca* I also visited the church of St. Andrew of the Valley (Sant'Andrea della Valle), where the first act takes place, and the Farnese Palace, the site of the second act. Presently the palace is the French Embassy, closed to the public. One of the side chapels in the church has a sign noting the opera but alas it has no painting of a fair-haired marchesa (noblewoman) as Mary Magdalen.

Along the Tiber is a gem of a synagogue (Sinagoga), comprising a Spanish and Portuguese sanctuary in dark wood, the Jewish Museum and the synagogue's main sanctuary; the last is richly decorated in Babylonian and Persian details. The synagogue's square dome is a prominent feature on the skyline of riverside Rome. The museum has a fine collection of silver, textiles, parchments and marble carvings as well as excerpts from old films.

No discussion of Rome would be complete without noting its many fountains. There is the large and elaborate Trevi Fountain, lifted from obscurity by the 1954 film *Three Coins in the Fountain*. In addition, there are several fountains by Bernini. At the Piazza Navona is the Fountain of the Four Rivers, with allegorical figures representing the Danube, Rio de la Plata, Ganges and the Nile. In the center of the Piazza Barberini is the Fountain of Triton. About 100 feet away, at the foot of the Via Veneto, is the Fountain of the Bees. Bernini is buried in an obscure grave in the basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore (St. Mary Major); the epitaph aptly proclaims that "He decorated the city."

All in all, the trip was most rewarding. I would be pleased to discuss it with my readers.

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We are sorry to report the death of **George Wertheim** '59 GSAS on December 8, 2013, in San Francisco. George is survived by his wife, Linda; daughter, Val Langmuir; and brother, Bill Wertheim '65.

After earning a master's in psychology, George finished a Ph.D. in experimental psychology at Stanford. He taught at Stanford, among other schools, then returned to the Bay Area to work first for the San Francisco mental health department and then for the information technology department; there, he fulfilled his destiny as a troublemaker by helping form Local 2, the Union for Professional and Technical Engineers in city government. He also started a small computer company and had been a board member of Congregation Bna'i Emuneh in San Francisco.

The perpetual motion machine has finally stopped — or at least slowed down: **Steve Jonas** announced his retirement as professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine and the Program in Public Health at the School of Medicine of Stony Brook University. Not to worry, though; he will continue as professor emeritus. Many of his accomplishments have been reported already in this column, but here's a brief recap:

Steve earned an M.D. from Harvard Medical School, an M.P.H. from the Yale School of Medicine and an M.S. in health management from the NYU Wagner Graduate School of Public Service. He also studied at the London School of Economics and the Touro College Law Center. He had been at Stony Brook since 1971 and also held adjunct professorships at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and Touro Law Center. He has written numerous books on both public and personal health and medical-related subjects as well as politics. Steve is a past president of the Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine, a past associate editor of *Preventive Medicine* and current editor-in-chief of the *American Medical Athletic Association Journal*. He also has hosted a radio call-in show on politics and been a web columnist. In his spare time, he is a dedicated triathloner and, yes, he has written a book on that, too.

The New Yorker gave a shout-out to **Carl Stern** '59J in the January 20 Talk of the Town piece titled "Opened Files." It covered an event (the subject of a recent book) that was a precursor to the Edward Snowden exposure of NSA data collection: the 1971 break-in at an FBI field office that revealed the extent of J. Edgar Hoover's spying on American citizens. The "burglars" came across a reference to a program called COINTELPRO.

The comment says, "It took two years and the determination of **Carl Stern,** an NBC news reporter who filed several Freedom of Information Act requests and a lawsuit against the Justice Department and the FBI, for Americans to discover what COINTELPRO was … a top-secret program which spied on civil rights leaders, suspected Communists, public critics of the FBI and student activists, among others, and sought to intimidate, smear and blackmail them, break up marriages, get people fired and demoralize them. … The files and the investigative journalism that followed up on them led the Church Committee hearings to reforms that helped rein in the agency's worst excesses …"

The New Yorker gave a shout-out to former NBC news reporter Carl Stern '58, '59J in a January 20 Talk of the Town piece.

As we have noted, Carl's TV report was selected by the Journalism School as one of the "100 Great Stories" produced by its graduates during the past century.

Commenting on our report in the Winter *CCT* on **Joe Dorinson**'s role in a film on the Catskills comedians, **Morris Amitay** adds, "I read with great interest the paragraph citing **Bernie Nussbaum** and **Asher Rubin** working in the Catskills as waiters. I 'waited' not only in the Catskills but also in the Poconos, New Jersey, Connecticut and the Adirondacks for a total of eight years — two while still in high school, four in college and two in law school. In those 'good old days' I earned enough for my tuition and other expenses and saw some of the comedians in Joe's film."

Speaking of **Bernie Nussbaum,** we have mentioned that his daughter, Emily, is the TV columnist for *The New Yorker*. Her husband, Clive Thompson, is also a writer and the author of the book *Smarter Than You Think: How Technology is Changing Our Minds for the Better.*

The class lunch is held on the second Wednesday of every month in the Grill Room of the Columbia University Club of New York, 15 W. 43rd St. ($31 per person). Email **Art Radin** if you plan to attend, up to the day before: aradin@radinglass.com.

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I hope this column reaches you after an enjoyable time at Alumni Reunion Weekend. Stay tuned for the Fall *CCT* for a full report.

At one of our Reunion Committee meetings, I was asked to solicit biographies from classmates. We had a similar compilation for, I think, our 35th or 40th reunion. The biographies were then combined into a book. This time we may not have a hardcopy book but the contributions will be collected and made available, probably online via a dedicated website. Please contribute your reminiscences. There is no special form for the submission; just write what you want to communicate to your classmates (we're still accepting them even though reunion is over). Thank you for your participation.

Ralph G. Risley writes, "My wife, Sara, and I moved to Tucson from the Bay Area in 2004 and are still in the process of redoing our second house. I seem to be driven by projects (versus going to the gym for exercise). The real challenge and reward in this activity comes from the preservation of the character and bones of a property, restoring it to what it was prior to years of neglect and deferred maintenance. …

"Our three sons live in Northern California. Our oldest has a mergers and acquisition practice in Palo Alto, specializing in the software aspects of digital and Internet media and the offshoots thereof. Our other sons, and a daughter-in-law, are all lieutenants with the Sacramento Police Department.

"We spend four to five months

each year on the road, half in California and the remainder elsewhere in the Western United States. I will never retire in the traditional sense. I am always looking for value-added startups that can be leveraged. I am currently focusing on a U.S.-Mexico border transportation hub that integrates cross-border transport and regional economic development.

"Sara is deep into miniatures as a collector, artisan and seller of what no longer meets her current tastes. She does four shows a year in the West.

"In closing, I have a bit of reflection on the loss of a friend and a member of our local Columbia alumni club, Bill Krauter '66 Business. It happened unexpectedly, and too early. As you move about your daily routines, remember it can all end without warning and before you can have a last conversation."

From **Bernie Pucker,** we hear: "As it turns out, Alumni Reunion Weekend coincided with the last major exhibition in Pucker Gallery's present space, where we've been for 46 years, at 171 Newbury St., in Boston. My wife, Suzanne, and I have sold our building and will move nearly 7,100 art objects to 240 Newbury St., third floor. The location will provide us with slightly more space and higher ceilings — all on one floor! It is exciting and challenging. Fortunately, our son, Jon, is working with us and leading the way. We should be in by August and our first show will open in September.

"Boston has been good to us. We are fortunate to live in an educated, supportive community. Along the way we have dedicated a major part of our lives to supporting nonprofits, and continue to be amazed by the creative energy of the city's nonprofit sector. We host two or three events for these organizations in our gallery each month; lately this has included events for LIFT, Peace First, Medicine Wheel Productions and Playworks. Amazing, young, bright people saving the world.

"Our family's Columbia connection strengthens with [our granddaughter] Abby '14. We are so happy.

"Our usual approach is a day at a time. We start with 'This is the Day, the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and greet it with Joy and Gladness' but with luck and better we may make it to our 60th!"

Bob Stone, who at this writing planned to be at reunion, reports, "I will attend the high school graduations of my two eldest granddaughters: Elana in Silver Spring, Md., and Juliet in Denver. (How did I get so old?) Elana will head to an honors program at Maryland and Juliet will attend Kenyon College. If I can hang on long enough, my two youngest grandkids will have the opportunity to be third-generation candidates at Columbia, as their mother is Phyllis B. Stone '91."

Bruce M. Stave and his wife of 53 years, Sondra Astor Stave, continue to work together through The Stave Group: Oral History Consultants (oralhistorybythestavegroup.com). They do projects and conduct workshops locally and abroad. At the request of the State Department, they presented a weeklong oral history workshop in Ljubljana, Slovenia. They also are completing an oral history of Armenians in Connecticut, where they have resided for 49 years. The project is supported by an endowment for Armenian studies at the University of Connecticut, where Bruce taught for many years and is now a distinguished professor of history emeritus. As a consequence of that project, the Staves visited Armenia and met with faculty at Yerevan University; the trip also took them to Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Georgia. At this writing they were planning to take a Black Sea cruise in June. Despite the recent emphasis on Eastern Europe, Asia remains their favorite location.

Bruce also does his own version of *Wayne's World,* as he hosts a local access TV program in which he interviews residents of varying sorts in Coventry, Conn. The Staves' son is Channing '92. Aside from partnering in a successful marketing research analytic business, Disruptyx, Channing brings his son, Stratton (10), and daughter, Sabrina (4), to Columbia football and basketball games. Often their mother, Sara, a Connecticut College graduate, accompanies them. Stratton's favorite Columbia basketball player is Alex Rosenberg '15, and Sabrina is getting into the act as well.

David Horowitz writes, "My son Ben '88 was made a Columbia trustee in 2013, overcoming the burden of having a Columbia black sheep for a dad. I'm very proud. Ben is brilliant and will do Columbia a lot of good. His old man, nearing the end of his run, has begun publishing his collected works in 10 volumes under the title *The Black Book of the American Left: The Collected Conservative Writings of David Horowitz.* The first two volumes — *My Life & Times* and *Progressives* — are in print and three more will be out before the end of the year. Ben also published a book this spring — a terrific one, his first. It is called *The Hard Thing About Hard Things: Building a Business When There Are No Easy Answers.* I have a hunch that it will outsell all of his father's books, including the bestseller co-authored with Peter Collier on the Kennedys.

"Age has its many trials, as everyone reading these notes is aware. For some who keep their eyes open it brings a certain wisdom, which unfortunately is virtually impossible to pass on. Every generation has to learn the hard way — by experience. This in itself goes a long way toward explaining why our species is condemned to repeat the same mistakes in every generation, and why moral 'progress' is a chimera and the dedicated pursuit of it the source of so much human misery. But that was the subject of my remarks at our 50th reunion, which fell on many deaf ears. Sorry to miss this one. Maybe I'll still be around for the 60th. If not, I wish you all good luck."

Gene Appel, who was unsure at this writing whether he'd make it to the reunion, writes, "My wife, Linda, and I responded to a Columbia Alumni Association Facebook post requesting love stories at Columbia. Ours was accepted and posted on the CAA Facebook page [facebook.com/ColumbiaAlumniAssoc] in a collection called "Columbia LOVE Volume I." It has our picture and story of how we met; it's been 55 years."

Peter Rosenfeld accepted an invitation to become a member of the Scientific Program Committee of the 17th World Congress of Psychophysiology (IOP2014). IOP2014 will take place in Hiroshima Tuesday, September 23–Saturday, September 27. Peter says this is the first official congress held in Asia in the 32-year history of the International Organization of Psychophysiology. Also at this IOP congress he will co-chair a symposium (with an Israeli colleague) called "Advances In Memory Detection Research." His wife, Carmen, plans to attend.

Their daughter, Patricia, is earning a Ph.D. in economics and finance this June and has accepted an assistant professorship at Rice.

Ken Scheffel recently returned from a trip to Guatemala. He says, "Now, I need a vacation to recover from my vacation. Will try to write more after I've recovered."

Norm Bernstein writes, "In 2012 and 2013 I won two cases back to back in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit (the second against the U.S. Justice Department, which sought to overturn the first decision) and then filed a successful brief in the U.S. Supreme Court opposing the grant certiorari that was denied in January 2014. That win made the front page of *Bloomberg's Toxics Law Reporter* on January 30."

Richard Lacoss reports, "My family went to Tanzania last summer on our yearly vacation. Upon our return we all went our separate ways. My son, Remi Oldham, who graduated from Boston University in 2013, is a graduate student in geophysics at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. My daughter, Zelda Lacoss, after graduation from Smith in 2013, is in Beijing for a year studying Chinese. This gave me and my wife, Cynthia Oldham, an excuse to visit her recently; we all then traveled to Japan and Korea, and also went to the Ice Festival in Harbin, China, which was amazing. Cynthia and I are now back in Cambridge, Mass., with the cat and the dog."

Allan Franklin's 11th book on the history and philosophy of science, *Shifting Standards: Experiments in Particle Physics in the Twentieth Century,* was published in December. He writes, "I spent the fall semester as the senior visiting fellow at the Center for Philosophy of Science at Pittsburgh."

Norman Gelfand's daughter Keren Shoshan was married on March 23 to Adam Cohen in Ramat Gan, Israel. The couple will live in Israel, where Keren handles media relations for a startup called TipRanks. Feel free to look at its website.

In sad news, I am sorry to report the deaths of **Evan Juro, George H. Semel** and **Richard Stepcick.**

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 28–31, 2015

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A malfunctioning computer prevented my putting together a column for this issue. The good news is that I have a new one and should be on track for the Fall issue. So please, share your news with me at either address at the top of the column or send an update through the *CCT* webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

In the meantime, all best for a healthy and enjoyable summer.

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Jim Melcher has been honored as an outstanding member of the

Columbia College family, having received a 2014 John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement. The ceremony took place during the John Jay Awards Dinner on March 5 at Cipriani 42nd Street. Jim is the founding partner of Balestra Capital.

George Kalbouss reports, "As of the end of 2012, I have completed more than 700 musical shows for seniors, telling the stories of how the great songs and standards were composed. I began doing these shows in 2001 after I retired from Ohio State as a professor of Russian literature. Conservatively, more than 20,000 people have seen these programs."

Avrum Bluming and his wife, Martha, celebrated their 50th anniversary in the northern Nepal kingdom of Mustang. When they plan vacations, they generally search for a place where the indigenous culture hasn't yet been destroyed by contact with the modern world.

In northern Mustang the couple encountered a culture little changed across hundreds of years. Avrum says that at the height of summer, Mustang's population consists largely of horsemen and pastoralists who follow their herds of sheep, goats and yak to wherever the harsh, steep environment yields temporary fodder. Once winter arrives, herds must be taken south to the warmer, greener hillsides of southern Nepal. Many of the men leave for India, taking up temporary careers as traders across the Himalayas. The remaining population, cut by half, does its best to keep warm around dung-fueled kitchen fires in simple houses of stone and mud, living much as Europeans did during the Middle Ages.

Avrum and Martha stayed throughout the trip in the same accommodations as the locals — basically, stone- and mud-walled rooms with no plumbing. The only water source was from the glacial snow-melt that in the warm months runs through the streets of the towns. They brought their food with them, as well as propane tanks for cooking and a basic kitchen's worth of cooking utensils and dishware. It was pretty uncomfortable, they said.

Morrow Wilson now calls himself an independent producer, writer, marketing/communications executive and performer. Find out more at davidsunshinethenewnovel.com.

Bob Juceam received the Champion Attorney of the Year Award from CUNY's Citizenship Now! Program on March 25 at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice. The award was presented by Robert A. Katzmann, chief judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Though he left the partnership in 2006, Bob remains of counsel at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson in New York with a litigation practice, including matters of professional responsibility, defense of counsel charged with misconduct, insurance and reinsurance, and nonprofit organization and governance. His full plate also includes advancing lawyer pro bono activities through the American Bar Association, where he is a member of the House of Delegates, a directorship at the Pro Bono Institute and participation in the Immigration Justice Project.

In 2013 **Jose Cabranes** completed 12 years as a University trustee, a position in which, he was happy to report, he was regarded as having an unduly "parochial" interest in the welfare of the College within the University — a concern that afflicted College alumni well before we arrived on Morningside Heights in 1957 and which, he regrets to say, will persist well into this century.

Bob Juceam '61 received the Champion Attorney of the Year Award from CUNY's Citizenship Now! Program at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

Jose remains a judge in full active service on the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. His "home" chambers are in New Haven, Conn., where he has lived for 34 years. He goes to New York to hear cases every five to six weeks, on average. In August 2013 he was designated by Chief Justice John Roberts to also serve, for a seven-year term, on the three-judge United States Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court of Review.

Jose's wife, Kate, a former federal prosecutor in New York, is a tenured member of the faculty of Yale Law, where she is the Lafayette S. Foster Professor of Law and teaches constitutional law, criminal law and criminal procedure.

The couple has four children. Their younger daughter, Amy, for the past eight years has been the director of development and (latterly) director of foundation relations of the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust. Their older daughter, Jennifer, went into the family business — she's a graduate of Harvard Law— and lives in Concord, Mass., with her husband, Robbie, a partner in a Boston law firm, and their four children (ages 15, 13, 11 and 9). She is a regular columnist on political and cultural affairs for the *Boston Herald* and appears frequently on New England Cable News as a political commentator.

As for their sons, because the family is the matriarchy that it is (in Jose's words), both followed Kate's footsteps to Dartmouth. Older son Alejo '14L spent a year on a Dartmouth fellowship in Europe, where he was a paralegal in a law firm and an analyst at a financial consulting firm. He will now work at the NYC law firm of Hughes, Hubbard & Reed. Younger son Ben will graduate from Dartmouth in June. He is unsure where he will land professionally, although — after a three-month internship in 2012 at Major League Baseball's media center — he is interested in sports management.

Stan Futterman's son, Dan '89, was the College's Class Day speaker in May.

Rod Parke and his partner of 33 years, Dale Burke, finally were able to marry last July.

Arnold Klipstein writes that since he "retired" in July 2012 he has been working much of the time in Spokane, Wash., as a gastroenterologist for the Rockwood Clinic. He works two weeks a month and enjoys the people and the lack of dealing with the business portion of medicine. He works for an agency that he says treats him well. He has a wonderful fiancée and is healthy. Arnold travels a lot in between working and says, "Life is great."

In February, at our class' monthly luncheon in New York, **Stuart Newman** and his law partner, Liviu Vogel, spoke about their firm's efforts to collect a $2.7 billion judgment against the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of U.S. Marines killed or wounded in a truck bombing of the Marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, in October 1983. Last summer, the U.S. District Court in New York ordered that $2 billion in a bank account beneficially owned by the Central Bank of Iran be turned over to the plaintiffs. Stuart's firm is also pursuing a turnover of NYC commercial real estate controlled by the Iranian government, including, ironically, the office building where the Class of '61 holds its monthly luncheon meeting.

My wife, JB, and I spent the winter in Colorado as volunteer ambassadors at Copper Mountain, where we provided ski tours and other on-mountain services to guests. **Alex Liebowitz** visited and skied with us for more than a week, and **Bob Rennick** and his wife, Lisa, drove up from Colorado Springs for our annual mutual birthday celebration. Although much of the nation was staggered by continual snowstorms, we celebrated the more than 300 inches of snow we received this season.

Unfortunately, three classmates passed away in recent months.

Dr. **Kenneth C. Edelin** died of cancer on December 30, 2013. Ken's controversial 1975 manslaughter conviction for performing a legal abortion was overturned on appeal in a landmark test of medical, legal, religious and political questions surrounding abortion in America. Ken became a hero of the women's movement, was named to prestigious posts in national health and human rights organizations, and went on to a successful medical and teaching career. He became known for his concern for indigent patients, and he spoke often of the need for legal and safe abortions.

Ken was chairman of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America 1989–92. His case was the subject of a 1978 book, *The Baby in the Bottle*, by William A. Nolen, and a play, *As to the Meaning of Words*, by Mark Eichman, which was staged in New York in 1981. Ken authored many articles on the prevention of teenage pregnancy and the perils of substance abuse during pregnancy. In 2007 he published a memoir, *Broken Justice: A True Story of Race, Sex and Revenge in a Boston Courtroom*.

In addition to his wife, Barbara, and four children, Ken is survived by eight grandchildren; brother, Milton; sister, Norma Edelin Johnson; and nephew, Jeh C. Johnson '82L, the U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security and son of Norma and her husband, Jeh V. Johnson '53, '58 Arch.

Sam Marateck passed away on January 14, 2014, after a short illness. Sam completed a Ph.D. in physics at Rutgers in 1967. His interests then shifted to computer science, which he taught in NYU's computer science department from 1972 until he was taken ill in October 2013. He was the author of several well-known programming textbooks, which introduced many students to the subject.

According to his memorial service program, Sam, despite his career path, retained a side interest in physics and authored an article on Feynman diagrams in the Notices of the A.M.S. in 2006 and an article "Yang-Mills and Beyond," published in the Notices of the A.M.S. in 2012.

He was awarded the 1986 Washington Square and University College Great Teacher Award, the 1989 College of Arts and Science Baker's Dozen Teaching Award, the 1996 CAS Outstanding Teaching Award and the 2001 CAS Golden Dozen

Teaching Award. In recognition of Sam's outstanding teaching contributions, the Courant Institute established the Samuel L. Marateck Award for Outstanding Teaching in Computer Science.

Sam was a cherished and active member of the Jewish communities at NYU and at his regular synagogue, Young Israel of Long Beach, N.Y.

Victor Hao Li '64L passed away on September 18, 2013, in Oakland, Calif.

Victor was born in Hong Kong and earned two post-graduate degrees from Harvard Law. He was the Lewis Talbot and Nadine Hearn Shelton Professor of International Legal Studies at Stanford before he moved to Hawaii to become president of the East-West Center Foundation, a job he held from 1981–90. Victor then founded the Asia Pacific Consulting Group of the law firm Watanabe Ing with former Hawaii Gov. George Ariyoshi. Victor helped U.S. companies set up operations in China while Ariyoshi did similar work for Japan. Because of a personal invitation from Victor, Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang made Hawaii his first stop on his first official U.S. visit in 1983.

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Ed Pressman reported that at Homecoming, October 19, he, **Paul Alter, Stu Rosenbluth, Dave Tucker, Leo Swergold, Mike Stone** and **Stan Waldbaum** spent a wonderful day at the game, about which Ed wrote, "I will say little" — and then had dinner together. Prior to kickoff they had lunch at the 1962 table under the Homecoming Big Tent with **Yen Tan** and **Gary Roxland.** "I hope," Ed wrote, "that the women were able to put up with our remembrances. Whenever we get together, the time goes too quickly." At the time he wrote, they were planning a basketball outing. To learn of such gatherings, contact Ed: edwardpressman@mac.com.

John Garman sent the sad news that **Dick McKenna** passed away while shoveling snow in the dark on February 3. He was 74 and did not have any health problems. Dick earned a master's in education from Rutgers and pursued a more-than-40-year career as a teacher and coach. He taught science and biology at North Plainfield (N.J.) H.S. 1963–2003 and coached Little League, swimming, wrestling, cross country, and boys' and girls' track. For 50 summers, starting when he was in high school, Dick directed playground programs in North Plainfield and Maplewood, N.J.

Dick's family established a scholarship fund in his honor to help "not necessarily the best" high school students pay for college. Dick long wanted to help those students, because they are less likely to receive financial aid from the colleges they want to attend. You can support Dick's fund by contributing to the NPHS Alumni Association, c/o Fred Sheeler, 587 Ayres Ave., North Plainfield, NJ 07063.

Dick is survived by his wife, Gail J. Looker McKenna of 229 Benns Hill Rd., Bangor, PA 18013; their daughters, Jennifer McKenna and Joanna Bartholomew; and two grandchildren. A son, Douglas, predeceased him.

On December 24, *USA Today* ran a long story about **Bill Campbell** under the headline "Silicon Valley's Secret CEO Whisperer." Here are some excerpts: "Bill Campbell is the most important executive you've probably never heard of. His official biography is impressive: chairman of Intuit, president of Go Corp., founder and CEO of Claris Corp., former Apple executive and its longest-serving board member. But it's what he does on the side that has made an even bigger impact.

"The former Columbia University football coach is an executive adviser to some of the biggest names in technology, from Steve Jobs and Jeff Bezos to Google's Eric Schmidt and Larry Page. He's also worked with Ben Horowitz ['88] and Marc Andreessen, who went on to found one of the country's top venture capital firms, Andreessen Horowitz. …

"While Campbell is a big proponent of creative talent, particularly in engineers, he insists that leaders have fundamental operational skills, whether it's understanding a manufacturing process or basics like hiring and running good meetings. 'Brilliance,' [Campbell says,] can't be taught, but the operational stuff can be. Do you have operational instincts? Who cares? If you work with me for six months, I can give you enough prowess and process to be able to go run something, and really do something with it.'…

"The Pennsylvania native … was always a geek at heart — even when he worked at an old-school company like Eastman Kodak. 'I used to take all those green sheets from Kodak, take them home on Sunday and put them around a glass table and pound it all out. I had all the summary sheets of the ship-to locations. I'd break them down, see where there was retail and find out what was strong, what was weak, what markets were good. Where was Fuji affecting us and the private labels and things like that? I mean, I was a good computer jock at that time. In fact, I was the only one that did that at Kodak. They would say to me, "Where did you get your information?"'"

Andrew Dunn '71 emailed the sad news that his brother, **Ralph Dunn,** passed away at the end of December after a 20-year bout with cancer. "About all I know of his Columbia years," Andrew wrote, "is that he was a member of Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity; roomed with **Larry Devore,** his dearest lifelong friend, in Livingston; coxed the frosh lights; and was the Lion at football games. To get by the science and language requirements he took poets' astronomy and Spanish, but couldn't identify a single constellation or understand anything beyond *adios* and a few phrases I won't repeat in company."

Ralph graduated from the New England School of Law and practiced as a trial lawyer with his father-in-law in the firm of Reinherz & Dunn in Malden, Mass. **Larry Devore** wrote in his eulogy: "Ralph was a professional lawyer. I mean that he was extremely good. He cut to the chase. He represented me many times. I never, ever lost. We took on a downtown firm, and a week later they came to us for a settlement. He was not good; he was great."

In 1998 Ralph and his wife, Reinherz "Linda" Dunn, retired to Aventura, Fla., where he devoted himself to golf. He had three holes-in-one.

Ralph is survived by Linda, of 19355 Turnberry Way, Apt. M15E, Aventura, FL 33180-2541; their son, Eric, of San Francisco; and two grandchildren.

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I hope spring revived your spirits after our long, cold winter. For some strange reason it seems that more and more of you are emailing me from the warmer climes of Florida, Arizona or farther south. Lucky you. For those of us in New York, we enjoyed seeing the beautiful Columbia campus in the snow and the trees on College Walk magically twinkling with festive lights. Many of your classmates, including **Henry Black, Steve Barcan** and **Doron Gopstein,** braved the cold to cheer on the Columbia basketball team to its most successful season in 45 years.

Carey Winfrey writes, "Since retiring as the editor of *Smithsonian* magazine in October 2011, I have been working — at an appropriately leisurely pace — on a documentary about Key West, Fla., and why this little resort town became such a magnet for writers, going back to the day in 1927 that John Dos Passos persuaded Ernest Hemingway to give the place a try. Hemingway was followed, in short order, by Richard Wilbur, Elizabeth Bishop, Wallace Stevens, Robert Frost, Tennessee Williams, James Merrill, John Hersey, John Ciardi, John Malcolm Brinnin, Ralph Ellison and many others. Today's crop includes Alison Lurie, Robert Stone, Judy Blume, James Gleick, Frank Deford, Ann Beattie, Meg Cabot, Harry Mathews and Michael Mewshaw. The one-hour film, *Writers on Bicycles: Literary Key West,* was shown as part of the Friends of the Key West Library lecture series in January."

Nick Zill has written and produced another political satire/musical comedy, which opened in Hollywood in February. It's titled *Obama Spy Drama* and features as characters Edward Snowden, Vladimir Putin and a CIA official named Carlos Danger, as well as President Barack Obama '83.

Nick, when are you bringing your shows to the East Coast — perhaps Off-Broadway?

David Pittinsky writes, "*The Legal Intelligencer,* an ALM Pennsylvania Newspaper Group publication, has honored me with its Lifetime Achievement Award. I still practice full-time at Ballard Spahr in Philly, so I guess longevity is rewarding."

David Saxe was recently honored at the 38th annual Jewish Lawyers Guild Dinner at the Hilton New York Hotel with the Benjamin N. Cardozo Award. He has been on the Appellate Division, Supreme Court, First Department for 15 years.

Mel Gurtov has published his 22nd book, *Will This Be China's Century? A Skeptic's View,* and has started a blog on foreign policy, *In the Human Interest,* at mgurtov.wordpress.com.

Sid Kadish writes, "I recently had a Columbia moment. I was studying Psalm 36 in my monthly Bible study group when verse 10 jumped out at me. 'For with Thee is the fountain of life; in Thy light shall we see light.' We know this better as 'In lumine Tuo videbimus lumen.' I spent a few minutes with my group talking about how indeed a Columbia education can illuminate the darkness of ignorance …

"I retired from active medical practice at the end of 2013. It was 41 years of radiation oncology, usually dealing with cancer patients, making for a rewarding and satisfying career. Now I am engaged in volunteer work, consulting, scientific writing and taking it easy. Retire-

ment so far has been wonderful.

"As I write, today is Patriot's Day and Marathon Monday here in Massachusetts. There is a great deal of feeling in the air and everyone is either running, watching the runners or watching the race on TV. This is Boston's answer to 9-11. It's heady!"

Because the mailbox was a little empty this quarter, I went online and researched what you are all up to. Many of you have a large and interesting Google (or Bing) presence. I will highlight some of the ones I find from time to time. Please contact me if you would like to point (or not point) classmates to your Facebook page, website, blog or YouTube feed.

You can find out all about **Doug Anderson** and his wife Dale's Israeli decorative arts foundation at aidaarts.org.

If you are interested in Transcendental Meditation or just would like to see **David Orme-Johnson**'s watercolors, you can start at his Wikipedia page. It has a series of links.

My former roommate, **Patrick Cary-Barnard,** has been posting short videos to YouTube for several years. You can find links at green coalitionverte.ca/pimento.htm. Patrick reports from the Montreal neighborhood of Westmount on environmental and other issues. A Google search will lead you to many of his articles as well as the YouTube videos he has filed as "The Pimento Report."

Patrick, you look positively youthful!

Want to know what **Lee Lowenfish** has written about baseball recently? Take a look at leelowenfish.com.

Michael Hassan is in Mexico and was recently married. You can find him on Facebook.

Zev bar-Lev (ne **Rob Lefkowitz**), maintains an educational site at languagebazaar.com. Some interesting lessons there.

So visit these sites, look your classmates up on Facebook and "Friend" them. And visit our class page at facebook.com/columbia college1963 and "Like" us! You'll be rewarded by seeing a ton of pictures of our 50th reunion.

Remember, our regular class lunches at the Columbia University Club of New York are an ideal place to reconnect. It's been a rough winter but the Class of '63 seems to have made it through in great shape. Our monthly lunch attendance dropped to an all-time low of three during a snowstorm in February but we rebounded to a record 14 in April. If you're in NYC, try to make one of the next lunches, scheduled for July 10 and August 14 — they're always the second Thursday. Check out cc63ers.com for details.

In the meantime, let us know what you are up to, how you're doing and what's next.

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Submitting a photo for Class Notes is easier than ever!

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I am writing in early April and our 50th reunion is getting ever closer, though by the time you read this it will have passed. Stay tuned for the Fall *CCT* for my full report and please know that many people worked hard on our behalf to make it a great time. This includes **Steve Case** and **Bob Friedman,** who, as I've reported, co-chaired the Reunion Committee.

Others involved in the planning were **Joel Abramson, Adam Bender, Bernard Catalinotto, Lionel Etra, Marty Isserlis, Howard Jacobson, Gil Kahn, Fred Kantor, Beril Lapson, Peter Lowitt, Marshall Meyer, Jeff Newman, Steve Rosenfeld, Merv Rothstein, Dan Schechter, Steve Solomon, Peter Thall, Allen Tobias, Ivan Weissman** and **Marty Weinstein.**

Bob Goldman is the Catherine and William L. Magistretti Distinguished Professor in South and Southeast Asian Studies at UC Berkeley. He writes, "I am in the middle of my 42nd year as a faculty member at Berkeley and still enjoy it as much as ever. I got here through the kind of unexpected turn in one's life that only a place like Columbia can provide, and which turned a halfhearted pre-med chemistry major into — of all things — a professor of Sanskrit. Thanks to the College's excellent courses in what, in the pre-Saidian era, we used to call Oriental Civilizations and Humanities, and thanks to the inspirational teaching and mentoring of such outstanding scholars as Wm. Theodore de Bary ['41, '53 GSAS] and Ainslee Embree ['60 GSAS], my eyes opened to things I had never even dreamt of.

"Since our graduation from Columbia half a century ago, I have lived for various periods of a year or more in Philadelphia (Ph.D., Penn, 1971), Oxford (Spalding Visiting Lecturer in Eastern Religion and Ethics), Pune and Delhi, India, and of course Berkeley. I still miss my native New York, though.

"I live a short distance from the UC Berkeley campus in the beautiful Berkeley Hills with my wife, Sally Sutherland Goldman, who (go figure) also teaches Sanskrit at Berkeley. We have three sons, Jesse '95, a professor of physics at the University of Hawaii at Hilo; Seth, a postdoc in microbiology at the Waksman Institute of Microbiology at Rutgers; and Aaron '08, who works for a startup in San Francisco.

"Jesse and his wife, Cindy, had their first child and our first grandchild, Clara Hui-en, in 2013. My wife and I, along with Aaron, flew to Hawaii to see them in January, and then went straight on to New Delhi, where I was awarded the President's Certificate of Honour for Sanskrit (International) at a ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan, the former seat of the viceroy and now the Indian equivalent of our White House. The award is given to one non-Indian Sanskrit scholar each year and is announced on August 15, India's Independence Day. The ceremony was an interesting mélange of Indo-British pageantry. The award also includes a traditional pandit's gift of a woolen shawl and a cash prize."

Congratulations, Bob.

Kevin DeMarrais writes, "After 20 years, 1,046 Sunday columns (without missing a week), awards from the New Jersey chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists for the top business stories of the year, some angry phone calls and letters from advertisers who didn't like what I said about them, and even more letters and emails from readers who thanked me for helping them, it is time to retire.

"On April 6, 'Your Money's Worth,' my consumer-oriented financial column, made its last appearance on the front page of the Sunday business section at *The Record*, the highly regarded Bergen County-based newspaper. It was a tough call because I still enjoy what I'm doing, but it's time to move on with the rest of my life, to travel, to spend more time with my four grandsons and to try to avoid driving my wife (of almost 50 years), Marilyn, crazy.

"This was something of a second or third career for me. Many people start in journalism and move into public relations to make more money. I started in public relations, including 19 years as director of sports information at Columbia, and left to help found a startup online company that was five to 10 years ahead of its time. That was my chance to get rich. Instead, I was part of one of the first digital bankruptcies — you haven't lived until you watch the auctioneer sell off your desk — before embarking on a career in journalism, which was always my first love."

Steve Savitt reports similar news: "I will retire at the end of June 2015, after having been on the faculty of the University of British Columbia for 45 years. I look forward to having more time for my academic work (in the philosophy of time) once I stop teaching. I also intend to have a bit more fun, too. For instance, despite the lack of all qualifications, I have joined the board of the British Columbia Civil Liberties Association and I am happy to participate even peripherally in the sort of work where many of my classmates have made their careers. Last year we won a constitutional challenge to Canada's archaic prostitution laws, and we currently have a case arguing for physician-assisted suicide for the terminally ill (in carefully delimited circumstances) headed to the Supreme Court of Canada.

"Like **Avi Decter** (and no doubt many others), my wife and I sold our longtime home, which was in a residential neighborhood of Vancouver, and moved into an apartment downtown. The change has been exhilarating. We now get out more often and walk nearly everywhere instead of driving. We feel fit — and morally superior to boot.

"We recently became grandparents. Our son, David, a professor of mathematics at the University of Arizona, and his wife, Katherine, an engineer with Raytheon, became the parents of Emilia last December. Emilia is, at the moment, unemployed though busy with a number of important projects, like getting her hands to her mouth.

"The pattern of my life will no doubt be familiar to a number of classmates. [As I write] it is unlikely I can be at the reunion. There are certainly a few I would have liked to have seen on campus, if they are still with us. **Les Pockell** is not, and I miss him."

Steve Rosenfeld writes from New York: "On May 16, I received my first degree from a university not named Columbia, when I was presented with an honorary juris doctor from the City University of New York Law School on the occasion of my completing 10-plus years as chair of the CUNY Law

Board of Visitors, and in recognition of my career-long involvement in public interest and public service pursuits. Among the endeavors cited by the faculty in voting me this honor are my work as deputy general counsel of the New York State Special Commission on Attica in the 1970s, my service as a board member and president of the Legal Aid Society (for which I now volunteer several days a week, representing abused and neglected children in Family Court) and my role in helping to create CUNY Law's new Theodore Sorensen Center for International Peace and Justice, in memory of my late Paul, Weiss partner, whom we all [may] remember as President Kennedy's counsel and speechwriter when we were at the College."

Congratulations, Steve.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 28–31, 2015

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I am happy to say that I had a hand in creating the lead story in this column. The backstory is that **Allen Brill** and I are among the handful of classmates who settled on the Upper West Side, not far from Columbia. My wife, Adele, and I ran into Allen and his wife, Irene, at a neighborhood restaurant, and we decided to sit together. In the course of conversation, Allen mentioned that **Brian Fix** '68L was on his way to Dakar, Senegal. That night I wrote to both Brian and **Gary Engelberg,** who has lived in Dakar since his Peace Corps service in 1965, to connect them and pave the way for a get-together in Dakar. I include below their separate reports on their encounter.

Gary writes, "Brian has been back and forth to Dakar since the '70s, but [until now] neither he nor I was aware of the other's presence in that part of the world! We met for a Senegalese lunch at my place and exchanged war stories, drank Senegalese tea and listened to the call to prayer from the mosque across the street. Brian is advising the Senegalese government on infrastructure development through public-private partnerships. I am happily retired after turning over the management of my NGO, Africa Consultants International, and its Baobab Training and Resource Center, to a new team of competent Senegalese."

Here's Brian's take: "Indeed, an enjoyable lunch with Gary. For *CCT* purposes, I should simply add that for my sins, having spent close to 20 years living and working in Europe — Paris for 12 years and London for six before that, first opening and then managing Central and East European offices for the Salans law firm and, as those offices matured, moving over to French corporate work — I decided that it was time to become American again. I returned to NYC in 2008 (but only after playing architecture student through the Architecture School's program in Paris at Reid Hall).

"Given all my years working in emerging markets, particularly Africa, I have been working for the past four years on a pro-bono basis with the International Senior Lawyers Project, assisting African governments in negotiating international development contracts, as well as teaching a seminar at Sciences Po in Paris on the same subject. The current work in Senegal is through the ISLP and the African Development Bank but doesn't hold a candle to the good work that Gary has been doing in Dakar for the past 47 years. *Chapeau!* …

"On a personal note, though I maintain a residence on the Upper East Side, I decided that after all these years it was also time to relax on the weekends so I recently bought a historic house in Princeton once occupied by one Woodrow Wilson. Tigerland notwithstanding, I will remain loyal to Morningside Heights. But if anyone is in the Princeton area, do let me know."

You can reach Gary at gengel berg@acibaobab.org and Brian at brian.fix@dentons.com.

Josh Fendel (joshf6271@aol.com) writes: "Reading the Class Notes in the Winter 2013–14 issue of *CCT* reminded me of a recent tête-à-tête I had with my wife. (Actually, it was mostly me talking and her listening.) I was feeling a bit melancholy as I contemplated my retirement later this year and what I sometimes feel is a failure to live up to my potential. The recent Class Notes regarding the accomplishments of some of our classmates has done little to lessen my sense of inadequacy in this regard. I have had a moderately successful practice as a clinical social worker for more than 40 years, which provided me with satisfying and fulfilling work. But I have won no national honors, published no acclaimed books or articles, received no major awards, made no significant discoveries, managed no law firms, held no public office, headed no academic departments, held no distinguished chairs and accumulated no great wealth. **Steve Shama**'s comments about retirement made me wonder exactly how much 'several' million dollars was. But like Steve, my financial planner assures me that my wife and I can live a very comfortable life without running out of money.

"On the other hand, I plan to retire to the San Francisco area later this year (from Long Island), moving to be near both my son, David '95, and my brother, and their families. I am grateful for my two children and their spouses, my five grandchildren and my wife of 46 years, Barbara. We are all in good health (on an age-adjusted basis) and living comfortable lives. I have good friends (sadly, I will leave many of them when I move), and a fair number of people whom I love and who love me. I look forward to an active retirement pursuing a number of interests for which I haven't had enough time.

"And, oh yes, in 2012, I was the Nassau-Suffolk Bridge Association Flight 'B' Player of the Year. (I was president of the College Bridge Club and captain of the Bridge Team 1963–65)."

Josh touches on two important issues. One is the question of retirement, which is clearly a topic of great interest to people of our vintage, and I encourage classmates to weigh in on their decisions. Josh also refers to the self-selection that afflicts Class Notes: the trumpeting of accomplishments, honors and distinctions. But everyday details matter, too, particularly to people with whom you were friendly while at Columbia, so do not be reticent about sharing details of your life and activities, which may be more interesting to our readers than any awards you may have won. [Editor's note: See Alumni Corner for more on this topic.]

Friends of the late **Gideon Oberweger,** whom many of us admired and respected, should check the Class of 1992 notes in this issue to catch up on the doings of his son, Alex '92, and the news of the birth of his grandson, Samuel Gideon Oberweger, on January 24.

Gregory Tarsy (gregorytarsy@gmail.com) writes, "I've been quietly living near the beach in Santa Cruz, Calif., for 25 years or so and am a senior manager at Oracle by virtue of it having acquired Sun Microsystems, my long-term employer, in 2010.

"I plan to retire to a career in ceramics at the end of next year. I've been doing mostly wheel throwing, making functional ware, but not as much as I would like. I plan to continue when I retire and enter a ceramics program toward a B.F.A. or the equivalent. That plus singing in a choir or two and spiritual practice keeps me quite busy, as does family life with my wife, Karen, and two no-longer-full-time-resident stepsons.

In April, Bob Yunich '65 and Tony Leitner '65 were honored as 50-year members of The International Fraternity of Phi Gamma Delta.

"I've been singing South African four-part harmony with a sprinkling of other freedom songs in a local choir called Zabalaza (Zulu for struggle). Occasionally I sing with another local group, Peace Choir. I'm a longtime member of Subud, a spiritual organization begun in Indonesia in the late 1920s and which now has a membership of 20,000 people spread across about 80 countries. For a few years before Subud I was a Buddhist and sort of still am. There's not much Columbia presence in my neighborhood but I do regularly see a work colleague, Marty Itzkowitz '62."

Bob Yunich (rhyunich@gmail.com) shared this account: "This year has been marked with several anniversaries — the 10th anniversary of my 60th birthday, my wife Joanne's and my 35th wedding anniversary and my 45th Harvard Business School reunion. In April, **Tony Leitner** and I were honored as 50-year members of The International Fraternity of Phi Gamma Delta. Tony also was recently initiated into the elite group of Distinguished Fijis, which includes Roone Arledge '52 and Jack Nicklaus, among others.

"Joanne and I also have been fortunate to continue our adventure travel. In May we went on an awesome two-week trip to China with Abercrombie & Kent. Our tour started in Beijing. We saw the usual sights: Tiananmen Square; the Great Wall of China, where we climbed and walked one of the best-preserved segments northeast of the city; and the Summer Palace.

"The next leg of the trip was our 3½-day, 400-mile Yangtze River cruise from Yichang to Chongqing, passing through the Three Gorges.

"From Chongqing, we flew to and saw Guilin, then onto Xi'an. In Xi'an, we visited what is rightfully

Stefan Rudnicki '66 Gives Voice to Printed Word

By Mary Jean Babic

In his celebrated career as an audiobook narrator, **Stefan Rudnicki '66** has voiced New England sea captains and 6-year-old boys. He has read poetry in French and adopted Welsh, Texas and Polish accents. He has narrated science fiction books, history books, business books, parenting books, mysteries, thrillers, Chekhov and Nabokov. He's lent his resonant baritone to some 400 works and, mostly as co-owner of Los Angeles-based Skyboat Media, produced more than 3,500.

Last year Rudnicki was named a Golden Voice by *AudioFile*, the audiobook business' trade magazine. Something of a lifetime achievement award, the Golden Voice is a capstone for a career already decorated with two Best Spoken Word Grammys for producing (2013's *Society's Child*, an autobiography of singer Janis Ian, and 1999's *The Children's Shakespeare*) and Audie Awards (the audiobook world's Oscars), among other honors.

Not too shabby for what in fact is Rudnicki's second career, one stumbled upon but that's proven prolific.

"From week to week you're doing something different," says Rudnicki. And when your job requires you to read aloud every word of, say, Will Durant's multivolume *The Story of Civilization*, "your education never ceases."

Book narration, Rudnicki says, draws on all the tools he's gained, from a multilingual childhood to his theater days at Columbia, his master's program at the Yale School of Drama and the hundreds of productions he was involved with — performing, producing and directing — during two decades as a theater professor. "The core of the process is always to identify what is unique about a particular book or author and discover ways to underscore that uniqueness," he says. It's not only about character voices but also pacing, tempo, intentionality and the tones of different segments of a book.

And if a book calls for accents or long passages in a foreign language? Rudnicki revels in it — it's kind of his thing. Born in Krakow at the end of WWII, he lived in Sweden and Montreal before his family settled in Queens when he was 7; there was a time when he spoke Polish, Swedish and German. He's since lost them all, but that early exposure, Rudnicki says, gave him a facility with language that he calls on time and again.

During his time at Columbia there was no theater major, so Rudnicki opted for English. But he credits the Core with making it possible for him "to do everything that came afterward." He adds, "I pity anybody who hasn't had it. I describe it to people and their jaws drop: 'You did what? You studied what?'"

Rudnicki honed his performance chops in Varsity Shows and Barnard Gilbert and Sullivan Society musicals, and in 1969 he completed an M.F.A. at Yale. He then held faculty positions at the University of Rochester, Jersey City State College, NYU (adjunct) and Long Island University's C.W. Post campus. By 1987 he was LIU's department chair in theater, film and dance. The only remaining career step was to dean, which did not interest him, so he left academia to focus fully on theater. In 1991, he drove his Honda to Los Angeles, where he's lived ever since.

In his first years there, Rudnicki landed acting and directing jobs on low-budget horror and action films (his description). Then one day a playwright friend mentioned a gig she had abridging books prior to their being recorded.

"I'd never heard of an audiobook," Rudnicki says. "I figured it was something for the blind."

At that time, the mid-1990s, most audiobooks were confined to two 90-minute cassettes, so the book, be it *War and Peace* or *A Tale of Two Cities*, had to be cut to fit that format. In his teaching and acting days, Rudnicki had abridged plenty of texts. "I did *A Midsummer's Night Dream* with eight actors in 45 minutes," he says. "I thought, if I could abridge Shakespeare, I could do this."

The friend hooked him up with Dove Audio, and in short order he became production coordinator and then VP. He got behind a mic around 1997.

Rudnicki's audiobook career has coincided with tremendous growth in that industry, which has been transformed by digital downloads and the exploding young adult market (notably, the Harry Potter series). Books are now recorded at full length, and most new titles come out on audio. In 2011–12 alone, audiobooks sales increased by 13.5 percent, according to the Audio Publishers Association.

In 2000, Rudnicki and his professional and personal partner Gabrielle de Cuir, herself an audiobook narrator and director/producer, hung out a shingle as independent audio producers, under the name Skyboat Road Company Inc., now known as Skyboat Media.

Three of Skyboat's studios are in their home in L.A.'s Valley Glen neighborhood; another is minutes away in Studio City. Through the years, Rudnicki and de Cuir have developed close working relationships with writers such as Harlan Ellison, Ursula K. LeGuin, Deepak Chopra and Lewis Shiner.

Skyboat's best-known production is the *Ender's Game*



Audiobook narrator Stefan Rudnicki '66 has won two Best Spoken Word Grammys.
PHOTO: ALEX LINARES

series, written by Orson Scott Card. In recording those classic sci-fi novels, Rudnicki opted for multiple narrators, departing from the single-narrator norm. He voiced the main character, Ender Wiggin, who is, when the series begins, a 6-year-old boy.

"Clearly I don't sound like one," says Rudnicki. "The idea was to find that attitude and nail it down."

Card was so impressed that he now requires hiring Skyboat Media as a condition of selling audiobook rights to a publisher. "Stefan was determined to treat audionarrative as a new and separate art form, at the boundary between the narrative and the dramatic," says Card.

To stay competitive in an ever-more competitive business, Rudnicki is now positioning Skyboat to become a publisher as well as producer and is mining backlists to acquire rights to books that he wants to bring, in audio form, to a new audience. Many are science fiction, fantasy and horror books that he loved as a kid. One of Rudicki's first acquisitions, however, was *Thirty Years of Treason: Excerpts from Hearings Before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, 1938–1968*, written by one of his Columbia professors, Eric Bentley.

With the exception of *The Delivery*, a 2008 short film that he and de Cuir made — the plot centers on, yes, audiobooks — Rudnicki hasn't been on a film set in more than a decade. He says he misses it but has no complaints about the path he's taken. It turns out that being involved in every aspect of producing an audiobook is "a performance art that is also education." He adds, "It's really thrilling."

To hear Rudnicki discuss the best book he's narrated, go to Web Extas at college.columbia.edu/cct.

Mary Jean Babic *is a freelance writer who lives in Brooklyn. This is her third article for* Columbia College Today.

called the greatest of all archaeological sites in China: the Terra-Cotta Warriors and Horses dig. This site is a small part of the Tomb of Qin Shihuangdi, the first emperor of the Qin dynasty (221 B.C.–206 B.C.). Some 8,000 life-size figures (warriors and horses) were originally crafted during a 40-year period, prior to the emperor's death, in the belief they would safeguard his passage to the afterlife and protect his kingdom from attack. This emperor also should be credited with maintaining full employment; in addition to the workers who built his tomb, he enslaved hundreds of thousands more to build the Great Wall. He also set an extremely high bar for anyone wanting to have a spectacular monument to one's self. After the emperor died, almost all the original terra cotta figures were damaged and remained underground for nearly 2,000 years. Since 1974, when the site was discovered, 20–25 percent have been painstakingly restored, and the restoration will continue for decades to come. Although the terra cotta warriors have been billed as the eighth wonder of the world, I think Machu Picchu (which we visited in 2010) ties for this distinction.

"From Xi'an we flew to Shanghai, which is by any measure the most westernized city in China, and our last destination before returning home. During WWII, due to the absence of visa restrictions and despite the occupation by the Japanese, Shanghai became the refuge for 30,000 European Jews fleeing Hitler. The language barrier aside, and notwithstanding the lack of food and poor living conditions, these refugees were warmly welcomed by the Chinese (this story would make a great Steven Spielberg film as a sequel to *Schindler's List*). We visited the section of Shanghai that had been dubbed the Jewish Ghetto, which includes the former Ohel Moshe Synagogue, now used only occasionally for worship services and primarily as a museum. On our walking tour, we saw the former home of Michael Blumenthal, Secretary of the Treasury in the Carter Administration, who lived in Shanghai.

"I cannot bring myself to retire fully but am certainly enjoying more leisure: We spend half our time at our upstate home, YSACRES, in Andes, N.Y., and the remainder in New York City. I have been taking gardening classes at The New York Botanical Garden and enjoy my regular workouts and yoga practices. Fly-fishing always has been my passion; however, the conditions in the western Catskills were less than ideal last spring and early summer. My insurance and investment advisory practice still is going strong. Our Andes home is perfectly located for my fishing adventures and for taking care of my clients who reside in the Hudson Valley. New York remains my primary base."

Word has come of the death of **Geoffrey Horn** on November 25, 2013. Geoffrey was an editor and writer who lived in Red Bank, N.J.

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I had the pleasure of watching our men's basketball team several times this year, including their final game in the quarterfinals of the CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament (CIT). I attended with **Harvey Kurzweil.** We completed our finest season in 45 years with a 21–13 record. Congratulations to the team, and here's to grand expectations for next season.

I recently enjoyed a tasty and fun Chinese luncheon in Manhattan, with a menu selected by **Michael Garrett.** Joining us were **Tom Chorba, Mark Amsterdam, Rick Reder** and **Richard Zucker.** The bill was surprisingly light, especially given the fact that Michael did the ordering. He is gluten-free, so he vicariously enjoyed our repast while attacking his bean sprouts and steamed broccoli. I can state the diet is working, as he is half the man he used to be. Perhaps the fact that none of us had alcohol had something to do with the reasonable cost. It was also suggested that we request submissions of jokes to Class Notes to provide some humor, along with updates. Thoughts? My thinking is that some of our news is funny enough on its own, but I'm open.

Daniel Sullivan '67 Business writes, "This is the first time I have sent an update to Class Notes. I have fond memories of my days at the College. Coming from Canada I had to make a few adjustments but not many. I look back at Contemporary Civilization and Literature Humanities and only wish I appreciated these courses as much then as I do now. I enjoyed many of the friendships I made at Livingston Hall and Carman Hall, and through the Blue Key Society and Sigma Chi.

"While at the Business School I became interested in investment banking and afterward I returned to Toronto and enrolled in a master's program in economics at the University of Toronto. After graduating, I joined a Canadian investment banking firm and had a satisfying, 38-year career. Approaching mandatory retirement at 65, I was appointed by the Canadian prime minister as consul general for New York and moved back. I and my wife of 40 years, Sandra, enjoyed four years of interesting work and life in NYC. We returned to Canada to retirement and board work in 2011. We have two children and two grandchildren. I enjoy golf and travel, and fortunately have had no body parts replaced as yet."

Bill Greenfield reports, "[As I write] I am sitting in the Van Pelt auditorium in the Philadelphia Museum of Art, waiting to see Art Garfunkel ['65]. Through the years I've wondered how I could have been so preoccupied with my premed studies that I wasn't aware he was a classmate.

"At that time I also was often with Stefan Grossman, a classmate of my girlfriend at Cooper Union. Stefan was hanging out with [musicians] Rev. Gary Davis and John Sebastian. One time he brought his friend Mississippi John Hurt to the apartment and we ate Chinese food and he played for us.

"Man, would I pay more attention to these things if I were doing it again; although, if that were the case, I might not now be winding down a medical career and enjoying music so much more. Gotta go. Art is coming on."

David Paglin writes, "Semi-retired, I keep active as a writer and professional theater artist in Washington, D.C. I happily lucked into a tutoring job at the Center for Academic Excellence's Writing Center at the Naval Academy. One finding therefrom: It's a certain outcome of (initially) experiencing the grandeur of such a place that one becomes aware that both the martial and the peacemaking virtues — whose polarities and whose champions have propped the arc of our Republic — became conceived in the same womb of courage, the same moral purposiveness, the same nobility of hope. Curious how monuments erected to victory and to warriors compel the reflection that the warrior's triumph comes when he may say he has exhausted the causes to murder.

"Put another way: The international and diplomatic (apparent) blacks and whites of the judgments that many of us recall from the wars and the anarchic chaos of the mid- to late-'60s have now — in a time of other genres of human conflict — become glossed by varied tones of gray, whose quieter shades beckon and do not abuse the gaze of history … our necessary conceiving of history … that we, the Class of 1966, have beheld and lived inside of, in its baffling, protean incarnations. My best to classmates."

Calvin H. Johnson writes, "This falls into the category of

small news but I offer it to hold back the encroachment of the '65 or '67 Class Notes on '66 space: I continue to teach tax law at the University of Texas Law School in Austin. My major writing/research is on the Shelf Project, which is a collaboration to raise revenue in ways that will improve the fairness and efficiency of the tax system. Still fun. I try to run five miles or swim a mile every day. My fourth grandchild, Elliot Alexander, was born recently, which is pretty terrific news within our family."

Rich Beggs writes, "My wife, Geri, and I are happy to be in Florida during the winter. In January I had total right shoulder replacement surgery, which put my golf on hold until May. But rehab in 80 degrees is OK. I have adjusted to retirement and find lots of things to do. I keep up with the events and process at Columbia, including the athletics situation. Reality will be back come the first game in September (at least for football). But it's going to be a long process, especially considering the long history and significant impediments. Keep the faith."

Cliff Rosenthal is finishing a two-year stint at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau in Washington, D.C., focusing on low-income issues. This came on the heels of his closing out a successful 32-year career running the National Federation of Community Development Credit Unions. By the time you read this, he will be back in Brooklyn for good.

Dan Gover suggests taking a survey of how many classmates are working versus being retired. He adds, "I am looking at six more years at least. Fortunately, I'm a college professor in New Jersey. Unfortunately, I need the governor to open my lanes to get over the George Washington Bridge and visit Columbia."

Albert Bruns writes, "I retired in 2013. My last job was working at the Hidden Lantern Bookstore in Rosemary Beach, Fla. My wife, Prudence, teaches Transcendental Meditation and has given lectures this year in Iowa; Whistler, B.C. (Canada); New York City; and other places. She recently finished her second book, a memoir titled *Dear Prudence*. Her first was the publication of her Ph.D. thesis from UC Berkeley, based on her translations from Sanskrit of five texts on Nadi vigyan (ayurvedic pulse diagnosis).

"Prudence and I are also working on a documentary film about our experiences at the 2013 Kumbha Mela in Allahabad, India, a multi-week festival that was attended on its biggest day by 35 million pilgrims (all told, more than 100 million people participate in the Mela, which takes place over a period of a few weeks every 12 years). Our editor suggested that the film would be more interesting if the Mela were presented through our eyes. We have both studied India for several decades; we both spent several years studying Sanskrit (that's what my wife's Ph.D. is in); and we have both practiced Transcendental Meditation since the mid-1960s and been teachers of TM for nearly that long.

"The editor felt that through our lives the viewer could get a sense of the impact of the sixties on our generation and how we carried those experiences into our later life, and in turn see our impact on the next generations. I have interviewed several old Columbia friends for the film including **Dick Melita**, Mike Melita, Bill Wise and **Mike Shannon**.

"Our oldest son is developing cryptography programs. He lives with his two teenage children in Napa, Calif., and works in San Francisco. Our daughter is in her third year of medical school at FSU and doing specialty rotations at a hospital in south Florida. She has two children, a daughter learning gold-working (jewelry) in San Francisco and a son who is learning the same skill, living near us here in Florida. Our youngest son lives in Berkeley and works in Santa Clara in big data for a genome sequencing company.

"I am helping my wife as well as reading, walking, swimming, keeping up my Sanskrit, enjoying meditation and traveling. This year we went to India, British Columbia, New York (twice), places in the South, Iowa and — by the end of the year — California, twice."

One final brag: My son Rich, who will begin his final year of law school this fall at Richmond, has been offered a federal bankruptcy court clerkship in Norfolk, Va., so there's another year or so of southern living for him. One hopes he won't need to use his forthcoming expertise on my behalf.

The big 50 is coming up — as in our 50th Alumni Reunion Weekend. Please start consulting your long-term calendars for Thursday, June 2–Saturday, June 5, 2016. This will be probably the most significant and hopefully well-attended reunion of our class, and it would be wonderful to see all of you there. I promise to buy each one of you a drink and dinner of your choice during the weekend. I swear. I really do. You can count on me. Seriously.

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David Hillis '72 P&S writes, "In October, the Senior Society of Sachems celebrated its centennial year with a gala dinner at the University Club of New York, in Midtown. Of the grand total of 1,500 Sachems alumni across a 100-year period, 800 or so are said to be alive, and almost 350 attended the dinner. It was a huge success.

"Our class was particularly well represented, probably in part because **Roger Lehecka** was the Sachems faculty adviser for many years during and after his tenure as dean of students. Of our 15 members, I know that three have died: **Paul Bernbach, Jeremy Epstein** and **Don Krim.** Nine of the remaining 12 were in attendance: **Bob Coffee, Paul Gewirtz, David Hillis, Roger Lehecka, Larry Miller, Mark Minton, Allen Spiegel, Tom Werman** and **David Zapp.**

"My career is coming to an end in the coming months. After graduating from P&S, I completed a residency and chief residency in medicine at Parkland Hospital in Dallas, after which I completed my fellowship training in cardiology at what was then called the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston, now Brigham and Women's Hospital. I then joined the faculty of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, one of five medical institutions in the University of Texas system. From 1978–2008, I was on the department of medicine faculty there, eventually becoming vice chair of the department. In 2008, I moved to one of the other University of Texas medical institutions, in San Antonio, to become chair of the Department of Medicine. I plan to step down from that position soon and then to retire this summer. Interests other than medicine have been put off for far too long!"

David Hillis '67, '72 P&S writes that his class was well represented at October's centennial gala dinner of the Senior Society of Sachems.

Larry Besserman writes, "At home in Jerusalem, with twice-yearly trips back to NYC and Northampton to visit the kids and grandkids. My most recent book, *Biblical Paradigms in Medieval English Literature: From Caedmon to Malory*, has been released as a paperback — a new Routledge venture, to make scholarly books more affordable."

Amy Epstein, widow of **Jeremy Epstein** (who died in 2009), says, "I'm writing simply to mention two extraordinary legacies that reflect two of Jeremy's great life interests: Columbia College and pro bono service.

"Jeremy created a scholarship for an undergraduate in the College with an interest in classics. Three undergraduates have received the Jeremy G. Epstein Scholarship since 2009 and each has shown a level of intellectual curiosity that would have pleased their benefactor. The current recipient has been accepted to Oxford next year, where she will study classics. Jeremy spent two years at Jesus College, Cambridge, where he studied classics on a Kellett Fellowship before attending Yale Law. I know it was an extremely interesting and intellectually rewarding time because we were married in the summer between his first and second year.

"I should also note that attending the Dean's Scholarship Reception every February with the Jeremy G. Epstein Scholarship recipient, and hearing about the differences all these scholarships make in the lives of the undergraduates who receive them, is one of the most uplifting events in my calendar.

"Equally gratifying is attending the now-annual Jeremy G. Epstein Awards for Outstanding Pro Bono Service, sponsored by the New York City Bar Association at the beginning of Pro Bono Week in October. The awards were created in 2009 by the New York City Bar Association in Jeremy's memory and are given to 10 attorneys in New York City who have done exemplary pro bono work for the City Bar Justice Center, the association's not-for-profit division. The keynote speaker at last year's ceremony was Judge Jed S. Rakoff of the U.S. District Court of the Southern District of New York.

"I should note that Jeremy devoted more than 5,000 hours to pro bono service while working in private practice, believing that any individual or organization is entitled to fair representation regardless of the ability or means to pay.

"My children and I are certainly now the beneficiary of all this goodwill from these lifetime interests. I am simply noting the importance of these legacies for my family, which help keep Jeremy's memory alive for us, as well as for the many people who have gotten

to know about him through the Columbia College scholarship and the pro bono awards program."

Jeff Newman writes, "My son, David '02, had the privilege of clerking for Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg ['59L] at the Supreme Court for the 2010–11 term, four years after his graduation from law school. He then served for two years as counsel to the assistant attorney general for national security. In September 2013, he accepted an offer from his former boss at the Department of Justice to join her at the White House; since then, David has been director for counterterrorism at the National Security Council. He is married to Kate Devine '02. I am a beaming grandfather to their two precious, young daughters.

"My daughter, Deborah '04, earned a master's in art education in May 2013 from NYU. She spent a week in Kosovo last summer, volunteering with promising young art students. Deb is now proudly, and energetically, teaching art in a Manhattan public school. She is recently married to Drew Shannahan '03. Talk about keeping things in the Columbia family.

"I feel most blessed. I extend warm greetings to my classmates from long ago, not so far away."

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Hi, classmates. I had a bump in the road that interfered with column writing but now I'm fine and getting ready for spring in New York. This magazine comes out in summer, though, so I hope you all are near a beach or enjoying warmer weather.

As I write, I just on Saturday saw Columbia win its second basketball game of the post-season in the CollegeInsider.com Tournament (CIT); the Lions were superb. I was with Bob Costa '67, his wife, Joan, and daughter, Carolyn '12, who works at ESPN. Carolyn used to broadcast for WKCR sports! I also saw **Ira Goldberg** at the game; he was cheerful and spirited.

I spoke with **Greg Winn** recently; he has a recently born granddaughter and seemed very happy indeed about that. Congratulations!

Phil Mandelker got in touch, as he was visiting the United States from Tel Aviv to spend time with his mother.

From the mailbag, I received several good notes; I'd love to hear from all of you at some point. Remember, you can write to the addresses at the top of the column or submit news via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Ed Weathers '69 GSAS writes, "Always sad to see no news in our class' *CCT* space, so here's a brief update. I live in Blacksburg, Va., with my lovely partner, Gail. I have retired from full-time teaching in the English department at Virginia Tech (VT) but I keep my hand in the teaching game part-time. I am one of a group of U.S.-based teachers working via the Internet to improve the English writing skills of Tanzanian medical students who are studying at a medical school near the base of Mount Kilimanjaro. The program is overseen by Duke through a grant from the U.S. government. I have now been to Tanzania twice. The students are astonishingly bright; all their medical studies are in English, although that is commonly their third language (after their tribal language and Swahili). If they were in the United States, I like to think most of these students would be going to Columbia.

"At the request of my former English department colleagues at VT, I also write a blog about, well, writing. The blog includes the Greatest Hits from my many years of teaching college writing classes. Occasionally, writing teachers from here and there make some of my posts part of their lesson plans — very rewarding. (The blog is at writeyourbest.blogspot.com.) I also maintain a blog at edweathers.blogspot.com that includes mini essays about everything from politics to crossword puzzles. (I am a failed cruciverbalist.)

"I am a volunteer tennis coach for the Blacksburg H.S. tennis team, and Gail and I love visiting my son, Alex, his wife, Lori, and our two small granddaughters in California whenever we can.

"This sounds like a busy life but I actually spend a good deal of time just playing golf (got my handicap index down to 1.4 last summer!) and tennis (still doing OK in singles against former college players half my age).

"The Columbia tennis team played the VT team and others in a multiple-team event in Blacksburg last winter. I said hello to the Columbia coach and to the players. They were all delightful and pretended to welcome the greetings and Baker Field memories of this old alum. I am a good friend of the VT tennis coach. He has nothing but the highest praise for the Columbia team.

"I speak well of Columbia to one and all, and last year I was happy when one of the girls on the local high school tennis team — a superstar mathematician and good athlete — applied with my encouragement and was admitted. She says she is doing well.

"My two best friends of Columbia origin are **Bruce Margon** and Fred Stern '71. If you Google Bruce, you will see that he has had a sterling career in astrophysics, including a long stint in charge of the Hubble telescope's experiments; Bruce was the 'face' of the Hubble for several years, appearing on *60 Minutes* when it did its first big story about the Hubble. Bruce is now a bigwig at UC Santa Clara. Fred is the son of famous Columbia history professor Fritz Stern ['46, '53 GSAS], who is now mostly retired. Fred is a psychologist with a practice in Manhattan. He is my favorite person in the world after Gail. Pretty much the only time we get to NYC is to visit Fred and his wife, Lois.

"I live altogether a life of great good luck. My time at Columbia is no small part of what has allowed that to be."

[Editor's note: See Alumni Corner for an essay by Weathers.]

Columbia men's tennis is great — nationally ranked, and winners of this year's Ivy League title. Women's tennis is exceptional, too. While we're on the subject, Phil Milstein '71 encouraged me to go to the Columbia-Harvard men's tennis match on April 5. The Lions had just whipped Cornell the prior weekend 7–0, and, well, they whipped the Crimson 7–0, too. (And Harvard has a fine team.)

While at the match I said hello to a number of Columbia basketball players who were there cheering on their fellow athletes. This team coming back next year is extraordinary; it has size and skill, a deep bench and a talented, energetic coach.

Chris Friedrichs writes, "When I opened the Winter issue of *CCT* and saw that no classmates had contributed news, it occurred to me that perhaps it is high time for me to bring you up to date about my activities.

"I teach European and world history at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver and do research on the history of European cities and German social history. My most recent book, *A Jewish Youth in Dresden: The Diary of Louis Lesser, 1833–1837*, was published in 2011. [As I write] I am enjoying a sabbatical but I look forward to returning to the classroom for two or three more years before I retire.

"Two years ago my wife, Rhoda, and I purchased an apartment in Brooklyn, a convenient pied-à-terre for our visits to New York. All three of our children (and our two grandchildren) live in the city. Our daughter is a teacher in Brooklyn. Her kids are 7 and 4. Our older son is a partner in a family business in Westchester. Our younger son is a cook at a restaurant in Lower Manhattan.

"In October I spent a month in New York, combining research with some extended family time. I enjoyed, as ever, an evening with **Charles Jarowski** (an oncologist in Manhattan) and his wife, Joan.

"Another highlight of my stay was the centennial celebration of the Columbia Senior Society of Sachems. At the banquet I sat with **Michael McGuire** and **Jim Stockinger.** I also enjoyed seeing some of my *Spectator* colleagues from adjacent years: Mark Minton '67 (president of the Korea Society), Robert Friedman '69 (a longtime journalist currently with Bloomberg News) and Nicholas Garaufis '69 (a federal district judge). A few days later I visited Nick in his chambers in Brooklyn and got a tour of the courtroom over which he presides.

"I was sorry to have missed our 45th reunion but I am quite determined to attend our 50th reunion in 2018 when, I believe, it will be our turn to have dinner in Low Rotunda."

Yes, Chris. Low will be ours again.

Jon Bauman got in touch through IM. He is doing well, and was far away from the Los Angeles earthquakes.

I have moved to One Lincoln Plaza, where I was living in 1975 when I returned from Boston. It's great here, with a pool at the top of the building and a gym. I am feeling ready for biking in Central Park and jogging slowly — unlike **Buzz Zucker,** who sent a text alerting me to the fact that he's back up to six-mile runs. He remains my role model. Go, Buzz.

To all classmates, I do hope we can have an event this fall. Let me know if you are interested.

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At the same time that this column is being filed in March, planning for our 45th Alumni Reunion Weekend is in its advanced stage and — if all goes according to plan — our reunion will be over shortly before this issue appears. So this edition of Class Notes will not tell you what happened, although if you made the right choice and joined us, you'll already know. For the rest, details will come in the Fall issue.

John Marwell received the New York State Bar Association's Award



Neal Handel '69 and Kristen Fujieki were married at the Montecito Country Club in Santa Barbara, Calif., on March 15. Left to right: Larry Berger '69, Isabel Berger, the groom, the bride, Bill Stadiem '69 and Steve Valenstein '69.

for Attorney Professionalism at the association's annual meeting, held in January in New York City. In accepting the award, John said the best career advice he received was "learning how to disagree without being disagreeable." (Apparently he was not asked about the best advice he ever received on any subject, so it's understandable he saw no need to share an anecdote from his College days.) John worked for a few years for IBM and has since been a partner in Shamberg Marwell Hollis Andreycak & Laidlaw, a firm he co-founded in Armonk, N.Y. The firm is best known for its zoning, land use and environment cases, and John has worked on a number of landmark cases.

Once I learned of the award, I reached out to John for personal news; he responded: "All is wonderful with our family. My wife, Gloria, is a real estate broker in Northern Westchester and Fairfield County, and recently placed third in her class of 84 competitors in the National Cutting Horse Association Eastern National Championships in Jackson, Miss. Just type in her name, or the name of her horse, Bet on Pink, on YouTube, to see what 'cutting' is all about. Our son Jeremy and his wife, Jillian, are both attorneys in Washington, D.C., and have twin 16-month-old sons, Gates and Liam (our first grandchildren). Our son Jonathan is in commercial real estate in Westchester, and our daughter, Julianna, is a second-year resident in internal medicine at the University of Connecticut in Hartford. All are working very hard and we are so proud of them."

Field reporter **Steve Valenstein** kindly filed the following dispatch while on location in Santa Barbara, Calif.: "On March 15, **Neal Handel** and Kristen Fujieki were married at the Montecito Country Club. In attendance were **Larry Berger** and his wife, Isabel; **Bill Stadiem;** and me. Neal recently relocated his plastic surgery practice to Santa Barbara, following almost four decades in the Los Angeles area. Larry and Isabel continue to dominate the Isthmus of Panama in business and real estate. Bill recently published a book, *Daughter of the King: Growing Up in Gangland,* about Meyer Lansky's family (with capital and small f's). His next book, *Jet Set: The People, the Planes, the Glamour, and the Romance in Aviation's Glory Years,* is scheduled for release in June.

"I practice medicine in Westchester County and teach one afternoon a week at the Columbia University Medical Center. I have taken a second home on the Upper West Side and am enjoying the Met Opera, New York Philharmonic and Carnegie Hall concerts to which I am now able to walk. I also practice yoga, bicycle in the city and Westchester, study Talmud daily and attend services at the Spanish and Portuguese synagogue Shearith Israel on a regular basis."

Bill Stark has become a regular contributor. He writes, "My last two Class Notes submissions were reflections rather than autobiographical updates. I thought that those few people who remembered me would be bored if I summarized the unchanging details of my life every few years. Both times my memories of 1965–69 came out, I got a reply before my paper copy arrived, validating my idea of sharing remembrances. And so I offer you a third installment.

"But first, to catch up: I am professor of biology at Saint Louis University. I married Sharon August after graduating and need not state what anniversary we are up to, as CC alumni know arithmetic. Our two sons are married and we have four grandchildren, two in Houston (9 and 7) and two in Seattle (8 and 5). I have run at least a mile every day since September 10, 1976 (runeveryday.com/lists/USRSA-Active-List.html)."

Moving on to reflections, Bill continues: "[At College] music was important. To this day, I think the best album is *East-West* by The Butterfield Blues Band. Did I like it because my roommates were playing it on **Dave McCarthy**'s KLH in my Carman suite? Back then, it was common to initiate get-togethers with 'Come over to my place; I got a new album.' I was very proud when my friends liked the LPs I introduced — Traffic's *Dear Mr. Fantasy* and The Chambers Brothers' *Time Has Come Today.* [From MO: The latter performed for us on campus.]

"Nobody had television sets but we did go to the Carman basement TV room to hear LBJ's weekly talk: 'Ma fullow Amurkins, Ah come to you with a heavy heart …' to see if we were going to Vietnam soon. Freshman year we took the 'war boards,' like the college boards. Uncle Sam wanted to verify that we deserved student deferment. We studied our trig and logs again, but this time it was a matter of life or death.

"In New York in those days, the telephone was a real pain in the neck. Inside phone booths, if intact, nothing worked. But they were usually ripped apart by someone who was angry about the phone's not working. Instead of a call costing a dime, there were message units. These started ticking up after three minutes and they were more than one [unit] for further distances like 'Lawn Guyland.' There was a public transportation strike. When I came back after Christmas to the train station, there were not enough cabs, but not to worry, as everyone with a car who wanted a few extra bucks gave rides. My roommates and I hitchhiked on Broadway to go ice skating in Central Park and had no trouble getting a ride from a wealthy couple in a nice car. Then we hitched to my uncle's apartment on the Upper East Side. After refreshments, he drove us home.

"The drinking age in New York in 1965 was 18. Diagonally across the street from Carman was The West End. A 12-oz. stein of light beer on tap was 40 cents. Perfect. The Gold Rail, four blocks south on Broadway, provided an occasional change of pace. The only trouble was a building on the walk back, which had 'The wages of sin is death' painted on an exterior wall. Also, halfway between, we walked past the Gayway bar, which never had many customers."

David Sokal writes, "In 2012 I retired from Family Health International (now FHI 360) after 25 years of research in family planning and HIV prevention. The same year I married a wonderful woman, Mary Lacombe Ph.D., and now have a bonus grandson (11). We have been traveling, spoiling our grandson, taking courses at Duke and generally enjoying retired life. In 2013, two colleagues and I incorporated a nonprofit, The Foundation for Male Contraceptives; we are in start-up mode, getting organized and recruiting board members."

Joel Solkoff is an architectural columnist for e-architect.co.uk. E-architect receives nearly one million hits a day from the architecture, engineering and construction community. Joel is currently focusing on Italian architect Renzo Piano's work on the new Columbia campus at Manhattanville. Joel's older daughter, Joanna Marie, received an honors bachelor's in English from UNC Chapel Hill and later graduated from its nursing school. Joel is especially proud he was able to accompany her down the aisle in October; he is a paraplegic and traveling is difficult. Joel's younger daughter, Amelia Altalena, teaches English at a small town in Spain. She is a graduate with honors in Spanish from UNC Asheville.

In advance of this column, I sent a few blast emails (one in connection with reunion) asking for news or reflections on the College years. Some classmates responded, but I'd like to hear from more. And (as you may know) groveling becomes more difficult with age. So please show some kindness and send in your news.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 28–31, 2015

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Dov Zakheim recently visited New York in connection with the work he is doing on the congressionally

mandated Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission, which is studying future pay for our active military in light of current budget constraints. Dov sits on this commission with two U.S. senators and two U.S. representatives, one from each party.

He notes: "My son Roger '00 moved from Capitol Hill, where he was deputy staff director of the House Armed Services Committee, to be of counsel at Covington & Burling. My son Scott '05 moved to Baltimore with his family. My son Keith expanded his PR business and now has four offices [spanning] both coasts. My stepson, Ben, is back from photographing the Sochi Olympics for *Harper's Magazine*. And I just try to keep up with our 10 grandchildren, with more on the way …

"One last thing: Through a friend of my daughter-in-law's, I reconnected with **Mike Link.** We hadn't been in touch for years."

Jonathan Beard reports, "In February I attended a book talk at the CUNY Graduate Center and spoke to a classmate I had not seen since 1968, **Nick Freudenberg** '79 PH. He was the guest of honor because he had just published *Lethal but Legal: Corporations, Consumption and Protecting Public Health.*"

Joseph Spivack still works for the same loan review company although his office has moved to the Wall Street area. He says, "Longer commute, unfortunately, as I live in Bergen County, N.J. My wife, Lynn Appelbaum, was honored in March for her 20 years building the Media and Communication Arts Department at City College.

"Our older daughter finished her B.A. in early childhood education at Eastern Nazarene College in Quincy, Mass., moved back to New Jersey and got a job at a preschool in Hackensack, N.J. She is engaged and expects to be married in July 2015. Our younger daughter just finished her freshman year at Kenyon in Ohio. She will probably be an English major, as she's an aspiring writer. She's writing for the campus newspaper and is a student associate at *The Kenyon Review* literary magazine."

Frank Motley reports, "I recently spent a golfing weekend with **Fred White,** former dean at Texas Wesleyan University School of Law. Fred and I will be in contact with the Black Alumni Council of Columbia University and the Barnard Class of 1970 to plan activities for Homecoming 2015."

James Periconi writes, "On January 7, **David Lehman** and I led members of the Grolier Club in an evening at the club devoted to the poetry of Charles Baudelaire, the preparation for which itself gave a great deal of pleasure in renewal of friendship. David prepared original translations of several of Baudelaire's *Petits Poèmes en prose.* Dressed as a mid-19th-century Parisian bistro musician, I played *musette* songs of that era (and of Edith Piaf's) on my accordion during the cocktail hour. David started off the dinner that followed with his translation of Baudelaire's *Enivrez-Vous* (Get Drunk). Richard Howard '51 — the foremost Baudelaire translator of our era and translator of *Les Fleurs du Mal,* for which he won the 1984 National Book Award, and a good friend of David's — lent a special grace to the evening by his presence and by his elegant readings, following dinner, in French and from his own and others' translations of Baudelaire. A very Columbia and very New York evening whose pleasure lingers and will linger long after the event."

David Lehman wrote in about the same evening, then provided the following: "The *Virginia Quarterly Review* is — and I will just quote from the letter it sent me — 'awarding you the Emily Clark Balch Prize for Poetry, which includes a payment of $1,000 for your translation of [Guillaume] Apollinaire's 'Zone.' This award cannot be applied for; it is a VQR staff decision regarding the best work of poetry published in our print or online pages in 2013. Over the decades, it has been awarded to many of our country's finest writers. In addition to promoting your translation of Apollinaire's 'Zone' through social media, we will be featuring the poem and your accompanying commentary on our homepage.'"

Peter Joseph reports, "My first epidural [pain management procedure] continues to work and I feel like a new person ever since. My wife Marcy's and my sons are all in good places and life here in California is delightful, although we worry big-time about drought and fire. (Somehow earthquakes are off the radar, until one happens.) We now have adorable twin granddaughters, whom we see frequently in San Francisco, and our youngest will soon be a senior at Tufts in computer science with a minor in mountaineering and ice climbing … but I try not to think about that too much.

"I'm 2½ years out of a 35-year career in emergency medicine and working as a full-time volunteer with Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL). Those who attended our last reunion and heard my keynote dinner address know that I'm passionate about trying to avoid the worst impacts of climate chaos, which could bring down that great civilization we all learned about in CC and Literature Humanities. There seemed to be a high degree of agreement in the room back then, and I suspect there's even more today.

"Well, after getting myself arrested in front of the White House during the demonstration against the Keystone XL pipeline in August 2011, I realized that such actions just weren't enough to stop the insanity — or, rather, the energy market in which carbon emissions are … free! It was then that I discovered CCL, the organization that gives me the most hope that we can, perhaps, pull ourselves out of the climate ditch we've dug ourselves into on our way to prosperity. It's now obvious to many, including Columbia luminaries such as climate scientist Jim Hansen and economist Jeffrey Sachs, that the most efficient way to rein in runaway carbon emissions is to raise their cost by taxing them, and the most acceptable way to do that is to make it revenue-neutral; in other words, the government wouldn't keep the money but rather return it to households. That way, those who break into hives at the word 'tax' can relax, families would not be overburdened and a fully refunded carbon tax would have the political stability that industry needs for investment certainty.

James Periconi '70 and David Lehman '70 led members of the Grolier Club in an evening devoted to the poetry of Charles Baudelaire.

"This is the plan espoused by people like George Shultz, [who was] President Nixon's treasury secretary (also President Reagan's Secretary of State), whom I had the honor of meeting two days before Thanksgiving. Shultz, along with Nobel economist and former Columbia professor Gary Becker, wrote an Op-Ed piece in *The Wall Street Journal* on April 7, 2013, 'Why We Support a Revenue-Neutral Carbon Tax.' This is precisely CCL's goal, which we work to achieve by using our democratic process. Last summer we conducted 435 meetings on Capitol Hill in three days, and last year we published 1,297 letters in newspapers calling on Congress to enact a revenue-neutral carbon tax. … It's so satisfying to be an integral part of an exponentially growing organization with such a mission, and one that is as inspiring, empowering, friendly and fun as CCL.

"I'm having a great time, and my Columbia education is in use every single day. All best to the Class of '70!"

Martin Newhouse sent the following while he was traveling in London: "I am president of the Boston-based New England Legal Foundation (nelfonline.org); our primary activity is as a public interest courtroom advocate for the business and property rights communities in New England. We filed 12 *amicus curiae* briefs in the U.S. Supreme Court alone last year in significant business and property cases arguing for an approach that reasonably balances regulation with freedom of action and that recognizes fundamental property rights.

"I was recently appointed by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court to a five-year term on the Massachusetts Clients' Security Board, which awards compensation to clients who have had money stolen by their attorneys. Massachusetts is unique (I believe) in having no cap on the size of the awards. The board is entirely privately funded through contributions by members of the State Bar Association. I teach legal ethics as an adjunct professor at Suffolk University Law School and am a member of the Boston Bar Association Ethics Committee.

"My wife, Nancy Scott, a professor of art history at Brandeis, is completing a short book on the life and work of Georgia O'Keeffe; she recently won a prestigious Frick Museum residential fellowship, which will support her research for her next project, the history of the collecting of the works of J.M.W. Turner in the United States, so I may spend more time in NYC this fall.

"Relating to Columbia, I am thrilled that our older daughter, Katherine, is pursuing a doctoral degree in special education at Teachers College, where I took a couple of courses as an undergraduate. I am blown away by the high level of innovative thinking and the resources at TC. On other fronts: Our son, Sam, is a journalist in Philadelphia, and our younger daughter, Rebecca, is a sculptor, studying at the well-regarded Massachusetts College of Art and Design, the only such art school that I am aware of within a publicly funded state university system."

Jonathan Beard sent the following:

"**Anthony J. Rock** died on January 28, 2014, shortly after suffering a stroke at his home in Eastchester, N.Y. I met Tony in 1966 when we

lived across the hall from each other in John Jay, where I spent my freshman and sophomore years. We spent many hours together during that period, and even after I moved out of the dorms, graduated and settled on the Upper West Side, Tony continued to find me — at first every few months, later every few years — and drop in for a visit. The last time was 11 years ago, when he appeared at the door — unannounced as usual — and sat chatting in the living room for a couple of hours. He then disappeared.

"I never knew what his major was, or heard about any of his classes or professors. The same was true for politics: One of my most vivid memories of Tony comes from spring 1968, when the demonstrations, building occupations and constant activity at Columbia made the campus an exciting place for me. Tony stayed around the dorm for three or four days, figured out that classes were not going to resume, then packed up and went home to Eastchester. He retired from the Westchester County government telecommunications department in 2002.

"According to his daughter, Maya, he 'read voraciously in literature and history, usually while listening to classical music, and with incense burning in the background.' He did not have Internet access at home and, after he retired, I was not able to stay in touch by email. He leaves Maya, two sisters and his father."

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If you are not receiving the '71C eNews and would like to, please email me.

Our Spring 2014 Class Notes featured extensive reporting (written in December) from Latvia by **Juris Kaza,** who fittingly is a stringer for *The Wall Street Journal* and Dow Jones Newswires. In March he updated various aspects of his item for the April '71C eNews and this edition of Class Notes. Of particular note, he writes:

"In Latvia, eyes are on developments in Ukraine, a country under a partial military occupation from Russia, [which is] reminiscent of Nazi Germany's actions on behalf of Volksdeutsche (ethnic Germans) in Czechoslovakia in 1938 and the move to retake the Rhineland in 1936. Latvia and the other Baltic countries with ethnic Russian minorities are deeply worried about the events in Crimea. The military occupation followed by a 'referendum' to join a new Russian empire looks cloned from the scenario in Latvia in 1940, when Soviet troops occupied the country and held sham elections leading to a puppet government that asked to join the Soviet Union. Before the overthrow of the government of Viktor Yanukovych, Ukraine was torn between an opening to the European Union and pressure and enticements from an increasingly authoritarian and corrupt Russia, which offers a customs union but little aside from oil and gas to circulate inside the customs union. There are some superficial similarities with conditions in Latvia — or rather, what Latvia could have faced outside the EU and having taken a different political and economic path."

Juris also writes that at the end of February his 100-year-old mother "suffered a hip fracture from a fall in her home in Newton, Mass., which she and my late dad bought in 1959 and where she had been living independently. She was treated at Newton-Wellesley Hospital and recovered in a rehab facility before moving to an assisted living facility in Wayland, about a two-minute drive from where my brother and his family live.

"My youngest son, Matiss Kaza, was accepted to NYU's Tisch School of the Arts (Class of 2018), and will be studying film and video. My wife, Latvian filmmaker Una Celma, and I will accompany him to New York when he enrolls in late August."

Alan Cooper writes, "Our son Jesse Cooper '08 is going to celebrate his wedding to Teresa Lee in July. It should not be taken as a sign of disloyalty that the wedding will take place at the Yale Club. (I do hold two Yale graduate degrees, after all.) I'm coming to the end of my seventh year as provost of the Jewish Theological Seminary, so I remain in close proximity to alma mater."

Remember back 47 Septembers ago, and the feelings we had, including of adventure, as we entered Columbia College. *We are still connected.*

What's Your Story?

Letting classmates know what's going on in your life is easier than ever. Send in your Class Notes!

ONLINE by clicking college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

EMAIL to the address at the top of your column.

MAIL to the address at the top of your column.

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Let's begin with **Bill Germano,** who says, "I suppose I should report something now and again."

Well, yes, as should we all.

He continues: "Readers with two minutes on their hands every other week may want to read my posts on *The Chronicle of Higher Education*'s Lingua Franca blog (chronicle.com/blogs/linguafranca/author/wgermano). It's precisely the length of an espresso. I've been one of the Lingua Franca bloggers for a year or so now, taking on peculiarities about language and what we do with it. This past year I also published a couple of small books: the first is *The Tales of Hoffmann,* on Powell and Pressburger's 1951 movie of the same name (part of the British Film Institute's Film Classics series); the second is a revised edition of *From Dissertation to Book* (yes, it's a bodice-ripper). I'm still deaning at Cooper Union in New York and teaching every term (next up: Shakespeare). Traveled to the Arctic several times during the past few summers. I, my wife, Diane Gibbons '71 Barnard, and our son, Christian, made it to 80 degrees north on the most recent trip to Svalbard."

Don't have time to write a whole paragraph for these pages? Send a quick note, like **Andrew Ackerman** did. He writes, "I've been living in Europe since graduation and am a classical musician in Austria with a faculty position in Spain."

Sounds intriguing; I'm hoping we hear more.

George Karp '76 P&S writes that he and his wife, Susan '73 PH, celebrated the arrival of son Adam's daughter — and their first grandchild — Johnna Juliet Karp, on January 6. He adds, "Our daughter, Rebecca Karp '05, is a hematology fellow at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, where she was born in 1983 when I was a hematology fellow there."

To share some news of my own, I am pleased to announce a new grandchild (No. 5, if you're counting). Daphna Nechama Charnov was born on Valentine's Day (she is a sweetheart) to my daughter, Avigail '05 Barnard, and her husband, Aharon. And unlike the other grandkids, she lives right here in New York, which is extra nice.

Condolences go out to **Steven Hirschfeld,** who earlier this year lost his mother, Ilona Koonce. He says, "My mother from time to time would ask me about college friends and she dutifully read our Class Notes column to see what was going on. She led a full life in turbulent times, and gave much back to everyone around her."

Some other sad news: **William A. Pencak** died in Coburn, Pa., on December 9, 2013. According to *Centre Daily News,* he was a professor of American history and Jewish studies at Penn State for many years and after retiring taught at Gettysburg and Ohio State. This past fall, William joined the University of South Alabama to develop a Jewish studies program there. He was a prolific author and longtime editor of *Pennsylvania History: A Journal of Mid-Atlantic Studies.*

Remember to send in updates. Your classmates want to hear what's new! You can write me at either address at the top of the column or send a note through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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Not much happening in the Noteosphere lately. Must be the celestial apathy.

Erik Bergman writes from "Portlandia on the Left Coast." He's worked for Waggener Edstrom Worldwide in high-tech public relations since 2000 for clients including Microsoft and T-Mobile. Erik also has been active in Toastmasters International and has earned the Distinguished Toastmaster award for communication and leadership, the group's highest award (as a TM myself, I know the commitment needed and it is substantial!). As well, Erik and his wife, Susan, enjoyed a second sabbatical trip to five European countries last summer.

Nicholas Lubar shares,"Still traveling regularly to Japan for work and have connected with a Columbia group there. Interviewed several bright high school students for the College and Engineering. You know the odds for acceptance."

Meir Stampfer is principal investigator of the Nurses' Health Study and does research on prostate cancer in his spare time. All three of his progeny are Columbians: Sam '07, Eliane '09 and Orly '11. Eliane was married last summer to Jason Wiese, and Meir's father officiated (as he did at Meir's wedding).

Allan Solomon is looking forward to retirement from the VA this year; he has been a psychologist there for 22 years. He'll continue in

private practice, though, because as he puts it, "One of my sons is starting an M.F.A. at the Art Institute of Chicago — we all know it never ends."

Ain't it da troof?

Circling back to where we began, let's shake off this lethargy and share some news. You can write me at either of the addresses at the top of the column or submit a note through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

In the meantime, have a wonderful summer.

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I hope everyone enjoyed our 40th reunion — and I hope you were there! I am writing this column two months before the event, so I have no idea who attended. I'm sure, however, that we had a great gathering of classmates sharing tales of our four years on campus and our journeys during the subsequent four decades. In the next column I will bring you up to date on what I saw and heard. In the meantime, here are some of the many notes that have come my way.

Rick Agresta is president and CEO of Isi North America in Fairfield, N.J. The company is the U.S. subsidiary of a 200-year-old European company that produces a full range of kitchen prep tools for the home cook. Rick passed on two bits of news. First, **Ron Peterson** has left NYC for a new life in Maryland. (I'll give you details when I can track Ron down.) Second, Rick suggested Googling **John Slough** and his company, Helion Energy. When I did, I found out that John is a professor of aeronautics and astronautics at the University of Washington in Seattle who has been doing nuclear fusion research for 30 years. As the chief science officer at Helion, John has developed a fusion engine that he believes will enable profitable fusion energy by 2019. A University of Washington report says this invention may be able to bring man to Mars.

He may not have traveled to Mars (yet), but **Ken Krug** seems to go everywhere else. In his role as CFO of The Asia Foundation (located in San Francisco), Ken was recently at trustee meetings in Kathmandu, Nepal and Delhi, India.

Closer to home, but also embracing the Asian philosophy, is Dr. **Christopher Puca.** Chris is a doctor at Ars Nova Internal Medicine in Tucson. Rather than describing his practice as internal medicine, he refers to it as "zen-dada existential medicine," saying that he "tries to work with the entire person in an integrated way." Chris has four sons, aged 23–33.

Christian Hansen, senior consultant for Electromind in London, recently gave his 99th sermon at his Church of England parish (by now, he must have had his centennial sermon). He also had an outstanding year on the Alumni Representative Committee: "I am happy to say that, this year, for the first time in the many years I have been interviewing prospective students from the United Kingdom for Columbia College, all those I interviewed were admitted."

Two classmates have announced that they are returning to the metro area from their dalliances in "America."

Barry Gruber writes, "After three years in Minneapolis I am returning to my roots, the Northeast. Although I love the 'mini-Apple,' and I have really adored my job at Talmud Torah, the time has come to move on. I have accepted the position of director of congressional learning at Temple Shalom in Greenwich, Conn. I will be back within driving distance of the vast majority of friends and family."

Dr. **David Melnick** sent a note from Wilmington, Del.: "My wife, Karen, and I are moving back to NYC, having completed a 33-year circuit up and down I-95 — NYC to New Haven to Boston to Bethesda to Philadelphia to NYC. We are landing four blocks from where we lived when I was a resident at New York Hospital." David has been at AstraZeneca for a decade but no word yet on what he'll be up to in NYC.

With the arrival of the "big 6-0" and the kids out of the house, **Bob Adler** and his wife, Anne-Marie Nolan, decided to shake things up. They sold their longtime home in suburban Montclair, N.J., and moved to the rugged coast of Maine. At this writing they do not have a permanent home nor have they decided whether to find new jobs or transition to retirement. Bob writes, "Lots of uncertainty but not anxiety. We are exploring and experimenting."

Sounds like he has returned to the '60s mindset!

Leon Wieseltier still manages to stir the "political pot." A picture of Leon and his flowing white locks was featured on the front page of *The New York Times* business section in March. Seems that he had sent an email to historian Ronald Radosh in praise of his negative review of a recently published, "profoundly anti-Zionist book" (to quote Leon). Radosh circulated the note and it was picked up by the press. Included in the *Times* piece was much speculation whether Leon (60 years old and longtime literary editor of *The New Republic*) or Chris Hughes (the 30-year-old Facebook multimillionaire, who bought the magazine in 2012) has the dominant "voice."

Nothing like a good ruckus!

Posted on Facebook was news from **Roger Cohen:** "I was thrilled and honored to be endorsed by the Lancaster (County) Democratic Committee for the Pennsylvania Democratic Party State Committee." This means that he was on the May 20 Democratic primary ballot to represent Lancaster County on the governing body of the state organization. Friends of Roger will have to Google him to find out if he was successful … or wait for the next column. While Roger lives in Lancaster, he is also the founder of AutoKthonous Market Solutions in NYC.

Having started with notes from classmates around the country and abroad, here's news from a handful of those in the New York area.

Michael Rozza is "semi-retired" but has made a clean break from the NYC Department of Education. He continues, "I am now doing something I did at the beginning of my career: teaching college English classes part-time." Mike is an adjunct lecturer at Kingsborough Community College. He adds, "All other details remain the same: living in Queens, 'happily unmarried' to Melissa (whom I met at the Plimpton Valentine's Day party in our senior year!). Forty years since we graduated and I still feel the same when I walk through the 116th Street gates onto College Walk!"

A similar continuity was evident in a note from **Glenn Goldman,** who lives in Tenafly, N.J. An architect and the director of the School of Art + Design at the New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark, N.J., he writes, "I've been at NJIT since 1982 — I never thought I'd be anywhere that long." His youngest son graduated from Emory and is in law school at Miami. His middle son finished medical school and is a resident in radiation oncology at SUNY Upstate in Syracuse. His oldest left his career in real estate and is a private investor in New Jersey.

At least one of his kids isn't still racking up tuition bills!

Hearty congratulations go to **George Bartos**, for whom January 1 must have felt like July 4 (Independence Day). He posted on Facebook: "The time has come today! Retirement! What a relief!" George was a financial adviser at Smith Barney for 25 years and then moved on to do the same at the Financial Consultant Group in Chatham, N.J. We'll await word on what George is up to in his newfound leisure.

With so many in the class slugging it out in jobs in the legal, medical and business worlds, it is time to highlight a trio who have managed to channel their creative spirits as well.

Bob Adler '74 and his wife, Anne-Marie Nolan, sold their home in suburban Montclair, N.J., and moved to the rugged coast of Maine.

Rob Stevens has been the president of One Stone Productions-Mind Train Records for three decades. During the last 10 years he has been the executive producer of 11 "Billboard Hot Dance/Electronic Songs No. 1s" featuring Yoko Ono. He adds, "In case anyone wants to know, she didn't break up the Beatles; the Beatles did."

You heard it here first in a *CCT* exclusive!

Rob is also doing talk radio, having been on two of the three biggest talk stations in NYC. His current show is *Robbie Student's Bite the Hand;* he explains, "'Student' was my paternal grandparents' name before the Ellis Island types got hold of it, and it provides some separation between my parallel careers."

Rob's older son, Henry, is a sophomore at Haverford in Pennsylvania and his younger son, Charlie, is a high school sophomore at York Prep in Manhattan.

Having had a long career in the entertainment industry — everything from producing *The Spongebob SquarePants Movie* to rebranding the Nashville Network to "Spike TV – The First Network for Men" — **Albie Hecht** is now taking on a real challenge: repositioning CNN's *Headline News* (HLN) into what he calls "the new TV home for the social media generation (the millennials and the millennial-minded)." He was quoted in a press release: "Headlines will be ripped from the most plugged-in sites and blogs … HLN will make it its mission to share trending news, viral events and stories that have viewers obsessed, plus discover emerging social stars."

I guess you'll have to go to Buzzfeed and *The Hollywood Reporter* to see what happens next!

The last of our cultural trio is a great example of the synthesis of a

Columbia College education, which creates well-rounded individuals who can work in diverse arenas. The career of Dr. **Burt Rochelson** is impressive by itself. After three decades as an obstetrician specializing in difficult pregnancies, Burt is now the chief of obstetrics at the North Shore University Hospital (in Manhasset, N.Y., on Long Island). Little known to most of us, he has also been a playwright and lyricist for many decades. This only came to light after news arrived of the opening of his play *The Rule of Disorder* at the Patchogue Theatre for the Performing Arts (on Long Island). The press release said of the play, "There's a rule in physics that all things tend to disorder. Life is like that, too."

Burt wrote both the book and the lyrics for this soon-to-be classic.

There you have it. Classmates working to bring us to Mars, classmates moving around the country and classmates engaging their creativity. It is no wonder that the world has grown to admire the Columbia College education. In case you haven't seen the latest statistics, the College once again was the third-hardest Ivy League college to get into — with admission rates lower than all but Harvard and Yale! Take that, Princeton and the other four Ivies! Stay tuned for the next column to learn all the news that came out of our 40th reunion.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 28–31, 2015
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Gulp and golly-gee! Our 40th reunion is coming. Has it been that long already? Mark your calendars and save the dates: May 28–31, 2015, on the Columbia campus in New York City. **Bob Katz** and I will co-chair the Reunion Committee, some classmates are already serving and others are invited to join. This isn't an exclusive club; the more, the merrier. If you're interested in becoming a member, let me know!

In addition to me (Maryland) and Bob (New York), current committee members are **Fernando Castro,** California; **Gene Davis,** New Jersey; **Jim Dolan,** Pennsylvania; **David Gawarecki,** Connecticut; **Phelps Hawkins,** Georgia; **Stephen Jacobs,** New York; **Gerry Keating,** Florida; **Anna Kornbrot,** Pennsylvania; **Steve Krasner,** Rhode Island; **Frank Lancellotti,** New York; **Charles Lindsay,** Connecticut and Florida; **Ira Malin,** New York; **C. John McCloskey III,** California; **Fran Minarik,** New York; **Albert Mrozik,** New Jersey; **Joe Pober,** New York; **Walter Ricciardi,** New York; **Kenneth Scherzer,** Tennessee; **Bob Schneider,** New York; **Jason Turner,** Wisconsin; **Wayne Turner,** New York; **Joe Vassallo,** Maryland; **Carson Wen,** Hong Kong; and **Richard Witten,** New York.

Some of our plans are: to hold receptions, gatherings and other events before reunion; to include Engineering and Barnard in all our efforts; to reach out to classmates in a whole lot of ways; and ultimately to have an exciting, extended weekend with lots of classmates, family members and friends attending. Thirty-seven of us came out for our 35th in 2010 and we hope to see even more for our 40th.

One of my goals is to write about 50 percent — at least! — of classmates in Class Notes before the end of 2015. So with that as my commitment, here's some news:

Howie Blatt writes, "I'm retired from a career in newspapers, including New York's *Daily News*, and I somehow evaded being laid off. I left the newspaper field to get into selling eight-tracks. Later I became a cobbler, town crier and a blacksmith. I am proud to show off my Columbia diploma when I hang around schoolyards. I tell the kids to stay in school."

David Gawarecki recently returned from four months wandering around Europe; his partner, Martha, was on sabbatical and he had nothing better to do. The trip included Kiev, Ukraine, while Lenin was still on his pedestal; Lviv, Ukraine, before it emptied out to go camping on the streets of Kiev; a month in Kiveri, Greece, an obscure village on the Aegean shore; four weeks in Florence; five days in Vienna to turn "that age" wrapped in Central European obscurity; six weeks in Aix-en-Provence, France; and a short side trip to Palermo, Italy, which he reports as being weird, wild and Fellini-esque. He adds that those of us with strong stomachs should look up the Capuchin catacombs.

Returning to the United States after a number of years in Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria, **Phelps Hawkins** and his wife, Sandra Earley, have relocated to Savannah, Ga., to take university teaching gigs. They are especially excited to be at Savannah State University, a century-old HBCU (historically black college or university). They will build on their wildly multi-cultural experience, having taught in Bulgaria for four years and now in a cross-cultural setting in the U.S. They say it has been a nice way for them to return to the U.S. and have more time with their grandchildren.

The entire family gathered recently to celebrate the christening of Phelps' grandchildren, Preslee Ann Hawkins and Graham Phelps Stokes Hawkins, in St. Paul's Chapel on the Morningside campus. The proud father — Phelps' son, Robert Graham Bradshaw Hawkins — had himself been christened there 27 years earlier. Phelps notes that his great-aunts donated the cost of the chapel and his great-uncle Isaac Newton Phelps Stokes designed and built St. Paul's. Afterward, the family went to the former West End, now Havana Central at The West End, and enjoyed mucho Dos Equis and Cuban food. In addition to his teaching, Phelps is an Alumni Representative Committee volunteer, interviewing Columbia undergraduate candidates from his area.

Gerry Keating and Dr. **Joe Vassallo** (Columbia roommates and Chaminade H.S. classmates) met in Miami in October for the NFL's Dolphins vs. Ravens game. They were hosted by Dr. Bob Herbert '76, '80 P&S, who played rugby with Gerry at Columbia. Joe is a cardiologist in Washington, D.C.; he rowed lightweight crew and played lightweight football for Columbia. Herbert "The Horse" is a retired anesthesiologist.

For those of you who are surprised to see a woman's name on our committee list, **Anna Kornbrot** '74E holds the honor of being the first female Columbia College graduate. She was a student of the Engineering combined B.S./B.A. program, which entitled qualified Engineering students to obtain degrees from both Engineering and the College in five years. This was possible because the Engineering students completed the Core Curriculum as well as their engineering courses. Anna applied to the College, which originally wanted her to get her B.A. from Barnard. After some tense negotiations, Anna prevailed. She gets the double reunion prize for having celebrated her Engineering 40th this past spring and will celebrate her College 40th in 2015. Anna and her husband, Barry Klayman '74, live in Wynnewood, Pa., and Anna practices and teaches dentistry in Philadelphia.

Steve Krasner and his wife, Susan Oclassen, have become grandparents. Son Jeff and his wife, Jess, had a daughter, Juliana, in December. Another big event: youngest daughter, Emily, got engaged.

Charlie Lindsay and his wife, Fern '82 Business, split their time between Palm Beach, Fla., and Greenwich, Conn. He says that retirement is a distant thought with children at Columbia, NYU and Boston College, adding: "Remember when $5,000 bought you a full year at Columbia? Today, add a zero and you still don't cover it. Multiply by three and add $30,000 and you have my out-of-pocket tuition bills. America is a great country and I thank God and Columbia that I can pay the bills!"

Charlie's businesses continue to do well. Riverview Capital continues to finance new technology companies and Heeltap! Entertainment is in the midst of producing seven IMAX-format films in China, Dubai, Rio and elsewhere. It is also developing a mini-series for the Congressional Medal of Honor Society.

Philip Mihlmester is EVP, global energy, at ICF International. He oversees the firm's global energy practice, coordinating the efforts of ICF's energy professionals worldwide in the areas of electric power, petroleum, natural gas/liquefied natural gas, coal, climate change, emissions, energy efficiency/demand side management and water issues. He oversees ICF's client interactions, which include major power, oil, gas and renewable energy companies; governments; financial institutions; and NGOs.

Phil and his wife, Linda, have two sons: William, a chemist who works for ASTM International, and Adam, an IT consultant. They all reside in Montgomery County, Md. Phil fondly remembers the smell of the stacks at Butler, where he spent many hours shelving books (do they still use books in College?).

Bob Schneider is familiar with my duties as class correspondent, as he fills that role for another of his alma maters, The Wharton School at Penn. In recognition of the outstanding and repeated contributions he makes to its alumni magazine, Bob was asked to provide an answer to the following question: "What is your favorite Wharton memory?" Now I ask him a similar question: "What is your favorite Columbia College memory?" Since I know Bob reads this column as soon as he receives the magazine, he'll respond, so look for his answer next time.

Bob also sent the following note: "I've spent the last two-plus years in South Carolina helping USC replace its 40-year-old [grade processing] system, and at the start of my career, I worked at MIT to support them as they replaced their 30-year-old system. How do colleges and universities continue this way? But, it keeps me in paychecks!"

For **Jason Turner,** the challenge of financing a college education for his three 17-year-old boys —

twins from his first marriage and one from his wife's earlier marriage — looms large. Wife Iryna is Ukranian, and her family mirrors the split within the country: her father and mother are old-line, pro-Russian communists, while her son dreams of coming to the land of opportunity and pursuing his computer career in America.

Jason runs the Secretary's Innovation Group, an organization of Republican state cabinet secretaries. Between 1998 and 2002 he was Mayor Rudy Giuliani's commissioner for health and welfare, and he wonders what will become of the robust welfare-to-work policies of Giuliani (followed by Bloomberg) under Bill de Blasio. These increased the proportion of welfare mothers in the labor force threefold and reduced welfare expenditures by half. Jason takes solace in the fact that his legislative initiative to require Food Stamp recipients to work or look for work as a condition of benefits was passed by Congress and signed into law by the President as part of the Farm Bill.

Classmates have gotten together at various Columbia events recently. **Bob Katz, Ira Malin** and **Bob Schneider** attended Burgers and Basketball in late February; this involved meeting other Class Agents at Havana Central at The West End for food and fun and then watching the men's basketball team beat Brown 70–68. **Steve Jacobs** and Ira also attended the John Jay Awards Dinner at Cipriani 42nd Street in early March.

Classmates, by the time you read this, it will be early summer and we'll be a year out from our 40th. Please think back, dig up some good stories and send them to me! Then think about today. Would you be where you are if not for your Columbia experience? We're going to have a great reunion. Plan to be there!

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A few days ago I had a surprise in my mailbox in the Boise State English Department. The return address on the manila envelope was that of **Robert Giusti** of New York. A note inside informed me that Robert is now clinical associate professor of pediatrics at NYU; his career as a pediatric pulmonologist has focused on caring for both children and adults with cystic fibrosis. His daughter, Elizabeth '12, is also a Lion.

Inside the big envelope Robert had included — amazing! — the Class of 1976 Freshman Directory, a real time capsule item. How did it survive nearly 40 years in pristine condition and fall into Robert's hands? According to his note: "I came upon this while cleaning out the apartment of an old friend and Columbia crew coach. It certainly brought back many memories."

It did for me as well. There are bios of the administrators who took care of us: [former Dean of the College] Peter Pouncey ['69 GSAS], Roberta Spagnola [Campbell '69 TC], my former Bloomsbury Circle professor Michael Rosenthal ['67 GSAS]. There are photos of our 18-year-old selves. The ads in the back are priceless. The West End offers a coupon for a free beer. A single room at the East End Hotel on 78th Street is $11. At the Steak House on Broadway at 111th, where my roommates and I often ate, a sirloin with baked potato and salad is $1.79, a bargain even in 1972.

On page 48, very near my embarrassing photo, is a very handsome one of **Nels Mitchell,** who is running for the U.S. Senate as a Democrat from Idaho. He's running against incumbent Jim Risch, the self-styled "most conservative member of the Senate." Risch is in hot water for votes against the Violence Against Women Act and so many other bills that he has earned the nickname "Abominable No Man" from the pundits. It looks like Nels has a strong chance of taking his place. Learn more about him and his campaign at nelsmitchellforidaho.com.

Neel Keller is editor of the *Outer Banks Sentinel*, which serves North Carolina's scenic Outer Banks resort area. He writes, "While my work is frequently hectic, it's certainly never boring. Some of the more memorable stories we've run recently include a three-part series on the devastating impact the Biggert-Waters Act is having on coastal communities like the Outer Banks, an interview with Dave Matthews Band guitarist Tim Reynolds and an interview with a local pastor who heard Martin Luther King Jr. speak in Edenton, N.C., in 1963, just months before the historic March on Washington, where King delivered his 'I Have a Dream' speech."

Neel and his wife, Heather, live a few miles inland in Creswell, N.C.

Mark Joseph writes, "After spending 24 of the past 30 years living in the San Francisco Bay Area, my wife, Laura Allen, and I have moved back east to Berlin, Md., where Laura is the town administrator. Berlin is a great small town and was recently voted by the magazine *Budget Travel* as the 'coolest small town in America.' Just eight miles to the beaches of Ocean City, Md., so I'll still be able to surf nearby."

This semester I'm on leave from teaching duties, using an Arts and Humanities Institute Research Fellowship to translate modern and contemporary Catalan poetry from writers including Maria Antònia Salvà, Clementina Arderiu, Rosa Leveroni, Maria-Mercè Marçal, Dolors Miquel and Ponç Pons. Since the end of the Franco dictatorship in 1975, Catalan literature has rebounded, and I'm hoping to share as much of it as possible with English-speaking readers.

Idaho Democrat Nels Mitchell '76 won his May primary election and is now running for the U.S. Senate against Republican incumbent Jim Risch.

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"I had a very busy 2013," says **Jerry Friedman,** a professor of economics at UMass Amherst since 1984. Jerry not only drafted a report on the funding for a single-payer national health plan but also presented it on Capitol Hill; drafted economic impact studies for single-payer state plans in Colorado and Pennsylvania (and, again, presented them across these states); and took a sabbatical semester in Rome with his wife where, not content with such things as side trips to Florence and looking at art, he drafted a book, tentatively titled *Richard Ely and the Trials of American Progressivism.*

Altogether, that's a lot of drafting. Jerry says, "Good news is that I have a full draft with 70,000 words; bad news is that I have a list of 52 things to learn before I can finish. Sigh."

From Austin, **Leland Beatty** writes that he's "targeting voters in political races across the country, including a recent win working with Katherine Haenschen '03. Recently, I was the plaintiff's expert witness challenging the Wisconsin voter I.D. law in federal court. My kids are grown, I have two grandchildren and I'm still here to enjoy it all. **Jim Middleton** and **Artie Gold** also live in Austin."

In addition to being a member of the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at Johns Hopkins, **Greg Ball** is also a vice dean of science and research at the Krieger School of Arts & Sciences there. He earned a doctorate at Rutgers and taught at Rockefeller and Boston College before arriving at Hopkins in 1991. Greg says, "I interact from time to time with many of the friends I made at Columbia."

I was distressed to learn that, after a brief illness, professor emeritus [and former interim dean of the College] Robert Belknap ['57 SIPA, '59 GSAS] died on March 17, 2014. The notice in *The New York Times* included these comments: "Figuratively and in reality, at 6'5", he was a towering presence. At Columbia for over 50 years, he championed the teaching of Literature Humanities and co-authored a book on the subject, *Tradition and Innovation: General Education and the Reintegration of the University.*" [Editor's note: See "Around the Quads."]

There will no doubt be more to say in the next issue. I hope classmates will send memories and reflections on our dean. You can write to either address at the top of the column or send a note through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

78

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After many years of columns full of reports and commentary from all of you, we seem to have taken a collective breather this spring. I am sure things will bounce back in time for the Fall issue. Don't forget, you can write me at either of the addresses at the top of the column or submit a note through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

I had a fun evening in March as part of basketball tournament "madness," when Columbia found itself in a post-season competition for the first time in 45 years. Somewhat improbably we drew a third-round game at Levien Gym against our archrival, the Yale Bulldogs.

Not wanting to miss the match-up between my two alma maters (although rooting 100 percent for the Lions), I traveled to NYC for a rare mid-week social engagement with a half-dozen former WKCR sportsters, including **Tom Mariam.** The evening was organized by the "dean" of King's Crown Radio alums, the indefatigable Ken Howitt '76.

The team lost a heartbreaker in the last minute after leading the whole contest, but the disappointment was forgotten after several large pizzas at V&T with the WKCR crew, including Ken's daughter (who is now older than we were when we were at Columbia). While I believe that New Haven has the best pizza in the country, the memories from that venerable Italian joint on Amsterdam Avenue are implanted too deeply in the psyche of our class to let mere quality win the day. Let's hope that Ivy success in the area of hoops is now part of the new normal on the Heights.

A note from **Chuck Geneslaw:** "[As I write] I am most excited and proud to be looking forward to attending my first Columbia Commencement as a parent, as my daughter, Allix '14 PH, formally receives her M.P.H. from Mailman in May. (She already has the actual document and, more importantly, a job as an administrative fellow at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.)

"Otherwise, I am happy to keep treating children as a partner at Coastal Healthcare in Toms River, N.J., and to be board chair of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Ocean County, N.J. Our most important statistic is that all of the children in our program have graduated from high school and entered college or post-secondary education. None have been in the juvenile justice system.

"Finally, I'm happy with 'empty nest' status. I'm delighted when any of [my wife Kim's and my] three children come home to visit but also quite pleased when they go back. Been there, done that!"

Keep those cards and letters coming!

79

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First, I hope everyone enjoyed Alumni Reunion Weekend. Stay tuned for the Fall issue for a report.

The news from **Jeff McFarland** is that after six years as head of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention office in Beijing, he moved in August to New Delhi. He says, "Am second to the World Health Organization working on vaccine preventable diseases."

For **Bill Lee** (and for most of us), 1979 feels so long ago "yet still seems so vivid. … I have slowly risen through the ranks of my pediatric group, Scarsdale Pediatrics, and now am the president. My spouse, Lara ['82 Nursing], a former pediatric ICU nurse, does IT work at a local high school in lieu of healthcare. Our daughter is working on her second master's (the first was art history, and this one is in teaching).

"I still am a loyal Columbia music fan. I will always love Suzanne Vega ['81 Barnard] and appreciate Vampire Weekend, a more current alternative rock band."

Mitchell Kotler updates us with sad news, writing: "**Louis Petrozza** passed away on October 5, 2013. He was recruited from the Bronx to Columbia to play football. I am unsure how long he played but he was pre-med. I stood at his wedding to his high school sweetheart, Josephine, shortly after graduation, and then he went on to medical school at Penn. I think he did his ob/gyn residency there as well, or at a local affiliate.

"Though we did not see each other or keep in touch during med school and residency, we rekindled our friendship on the steps of [the then-named] Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center in Camden, N.J., in 1989; he was completing a National Health Services Corps payback, and I had joined a urology practice. We then went to work mostly at a community hospital in Woodbury, N.J., where he had an excellent reputation as a quiet, caring and respected physician. We drove up and enjoyed a few Giants games together.

"Louis raised his family in Cherry Hill, N.J., and lived to see twins born to one of his daughters. Unfortunately he lost a very hard-fought, roughly two-year battle with pancreatic cancer."

Jeff McFarland '79 has moved to New Delhi to work for the World Health Organization; he focuses on vaccine-preventable diseases.

Robert C. Klapper '83 P&S: "I have written Class Notes for the last 10 years for two reasons: first, because I got tired of our column not having any entries, and second, I hoped to jog memories of our four years at the College.

"Research by Nobel laureate and Columbia professor Dr. Eric Kandel, whom I had the privilege of having classes with while I was a medical student, has shown that our thoughts, including memories, are actually a protein. The question is, why do some memories burn so brightly in your brain, while what you had for breakfast yesterday remains a mystery?

"One of my top 10 memories from college dates to a crew race against Yale and Navy in New Haven, Conn., during the spring of freshman year. My parents, who had never attended any kind of sporting event in their lives, were watching at the finish line. The moment I remember most was when I sat, coiled like a snake, both hands clenching the end of the oar, waiting for the gun to fire to start the race and telling myself — in a sort of out-of-body experience — that this boat I was rowing was not only going to transport me down this river, but also be a magic carpet to rocket me past my parents and start me on the American dream.

"Let me know the memory that burns brightly in your cerebral cortex! Roar, lion, roar!"

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 28–31, 2015
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I hope you are having a great summer and trust that this note finds you in good spirits. For starters, make a note: Our 35th reunion will be here before you know it — the dates for Alumni Reunion Weekend are Thursday, May 28–Sunday, May 31, 2015 — and the Reunion Committee needs volunteers. Please email me or either of the staff members in the box at the top of the column if you are interested.

Imagine having a job where you get to watch movies for a living. According to his Sundance.org "About Us" page, "**David Courier** is senior programmer for the Sundance Film Festival. He selects films across all the sections of the festival but with a focus on U.S. and World Cinema documentaries. He is also the writer and producer of the Sundance Awards Ceremony and oversees public programming for all of Sundance Institute throughout the year. David started his career at Sundance in 2000 as a screener and advanced from there. He is the former co-director of programming at Outfest, the Los Angeles gay and lesbian film festival. Prior to festival programming, David worked in film development for a number of production companies. He has served on the advisory board for the IFP and on the nominating committee for the IDA Awards, the Cinema Eye Honors and the Gotham [Independent Film] Awards."

Ray Commisso recently was named chief investment officer at Black Diamond Capital Appreciation Fund, where he focuses on fixed income markets.

Remember to send in your updates. There's no need to wait until reunion to catch up with one another. You can write to either address at the top of the column or submit notes via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

81

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Greetings from the Great White North (aka Connecticut)! It was quite a winter, and one that I hope is never repeated. Fortunately, I did get updates from some of our classmates and hope to hear more in the coming months.

Howard Tucker, a CPA, is a partner with Ernst & Young in New York and is busy pursuing the ever-elusive single-digit handicap. He's also still trying to finish Joyce's *Finnegans Wake*.

I wish Howard well with that, having abandoned any attempts several years ago.

Also in NYC, **Jeff Pundyk** is now VP of content solutions for *The Economist*, where he is happy to once again work for a media company. His wife, Anne, is doing well in the art community (annepundyk.com) and he enjoys spending time on his bike.

Jon Samuels presented a discussion at the Bruno Walter Auditorium at the NYPL at Lincoln Center in March. The subject was Vladimir Horowitz and the recordings in the CD set *Vladimir Horowitz Live at Carnegie Hall*.

Congratulations to Jon on his promotion of the arts!

Jesse H. Davis writes of athletic feats: "January 2012 was my first successful half marathon (Miami), which I ran with my brother-in-law, Alan. Then came another in March (NYC Half), then May (Brooklyn Half), September (Staten Island Half) and then …. in came Hurricane Sandy; Alan and I were ready to go but the race was cancelled. Not to be denied, I woke up on marathon Sunday, strapped on my trusty Garmin watch and set out for a long run, starting in Northern Jersey, where I live, continuing to and over the George

Washington Bridge, down the West Side, around the Battery and up the East Side — finally reaching 26.2 miles in 4:30, all by myself."

Jesse ran in the 2013 NYC Marathon with Alan, and Jesse's daughter, Katie. He had a great race, finishing in 4:10, and is excited to do it again this year.

When he's not busy training or racing, Jesse is president of Creative Mobile Technologies, where he helped to start a company that puts screens and credit card devices into the backs of taxis; he is now expanding that business internationally. On the parent front, he is proud to report that Katie earned an undergraduate degree from Brown in 2009 and a doctorate in neuropsychology in May from Yeshiva; his son, Harry, graduated from Cornell with a degree in computer science, also in May.

Congratulations, Jesse!

Eric Daum reports that his architectural firm, Merrimack Design Associates, continues to do well. In November he delivered the keynote address, "Why Classical: A Manifesto," at the 2013 Bulfinch Awards of the New England Chapter of the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art. He says, "This talk drew an analogy between the continued relevance of the writings of antiquity and of classical architecture. I was able to cite a few dim memories of Lit Hum and CC, and hoped the food and wine were sufficiently distracting that no one paid too close attention."

He also provided the following musical update: "CollegeBand, the website started by Reed Seerman '99 (collegeband.com/tag/columbia-university/), has added a page for our old band, The Art of Dating, of which I was a member along with Amy Lipman '80 Barnard, **John Leland** and Dan Zedek '83. Photos of a gig in the old cabaret in Ferris Booth, links to *Spectator* articles about the band and four songs salvaged from an ancient cassette were posted. Upon listening to my vocals, Dan commented, 'The melody and Eric have only a passing acquaintance.'"

Eric's current band, Electric Angels, released its second album last March, and its third should be out this summer. His son, Karl '15, is a rising senior who is *CCT*'s editorial intern as well as an editor at *Spectator*, where he also illustrates a weekly comic, "Daumsday," which offers a rueful look at college life. Eric adds, "Sadly, despite my advice, he is a history major, as I was."

Dan, don't feel bad; it could have been worse — he could have been a political science major!

On the publishing front, **Ed Klees** has published a second edition of his *Connecting with Companies: A Guide to Consulting Agreements for Biomedical Scientists*, written by Ed and Nobel Prize-winning scientist Bob Horvitz of MIT.

Congratulations to Ed!

On a sad note, I report on the passing of **Louis J. Brindisi III.** Louis was a consultant in Jamaica Plain, Mass.

I look forward to hearing from all of you; contact me at either address at the top of the column. In the meantime, best wishes for a great summer!

82

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Greetings, gentlemen! This quarter I feel oddly inspired by Carl Von Clausewitz: "War is the continuation of politics by other means." I can't help being preoccupied by the old-school sociopathic antics of Vladimir Putin. My fervent hope is that we live in less interesting times.

On a more positive note, I was happy to discover that our learned professor, **Josh Golding,** published *The Conversation: A Novel*, which is being received with substantial popular and critical acclaim. The reviews I came upon all warmly praised Josh's work, while the posted ratings on the Amazon website averaged 4.9 out of 5 — not bad!

For those who have not kept in touch with him, Josh is a professor of philosophy at Bellarmine University in Louisville, Ky. He also serves as rabbi of Congregation Anshei Sfard, a modern Orthodox synagogue also in Louisville. His previous publications include the book *Rationality and Religious Theism* as well as a number of articles published in such journals as *Faith and Philosophy, The Modern Schoolman, Religious Studies, The Torah U-Madda Journal*, and *Tradition: A Journal of Orthodox Jewish Thought.*

I was lucky enough to chat with Josh about the novel and thought that many of you would be interested in hearing a little of what I learned.

He explained that *The Conversation* is a semi-autobiographical work that takes place during a four-year span on an urban college campus with a nearby park and subway that the protagonist, David Goldstein, uses to head down to the Village. (Sound familiar?) This novel is, on one level, the story of David's spiritual journey from being raised in a secular Jewish family through a culturally and philosophically diverse college world. Along the way our protagonist must deal with many of life's typical challenges, such as romance, drugs and parental relationships.



Members of the Class of 1981 enjoyed a weekend of golf and fishing in Jupiter, Fla. Left to right: Lou Casali, Clayton Jones, Todd Kemmerly, Marc Mazur, Sean D'Arcy and Scott Gresky.

The Conversation, however, operates on many levels. Josh says its conversational style, combined with its socially and culturally diverse characters, provides a framework for him to deal rather objectively with many of life's deeper philosophical and religious questions. Among them are: Does God exist? Why is there evil? Is there a chosen people? Do the commandments have foundational reasons? Why are some of them odd by modern standards?

As a bonus, the book offers insight into the Jewish mystical tradition of Kabbalah, which I think many readers will find captivating.

Keep those emails coming! You can use either address at the top of the column or submit them via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

83

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The Lions basketball team had its best season since 1968. They finished 21–13 and lost in the quarterfinals of the CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament (CIT) to Yale. I attended seven of the games. My son, David, and I even attended the Columbia-Princeton away game with **Kevin Chapman** and his wife, Sharon Gerstman Chapman '83 Barnard. It was the first time Columbia won at Princeton in 21 years.

Before the game the Chapmans invited us to their home, where they shared their Mets memorabilia. Sharon also took us to see her award-winning photograph at a local exhibit.

Alex Rosenberg '15, Columbia's star forward, is from Short Hills, N.J., so he had many supporters at the Princeton game. Among them were his middle school coach, brother, father and uncle.

Later in the season, before the CIT game against Eastern Michigan, David and I ate dinner at V&T with **Ed Joyce** and his daughter. Ed attended many of the games with us during the season. Kevin and Sharon were at that game, too, along with their son, Ross '18. Ross is a talented musician and looks forward to playing with the Marching Band next season.

At the CIT quarterfinal game against Yale, I spoke to **Steve Greenfield,** who is a huge supporter of Columbia basketball. We sat with Cheryl Glicker Milstein '82 Barnard; Phil Milstein '71; and their daughter Toby '14 Barnard. In addition, I bumped into Brian Krisberg '81, '84L while waiting for food. Brian is a tireless Columbia supporter and alumni leader.

Columbia College Alumni on Facebook

Check out the Columbia College Alumni page!
facebook.com/alumnicc
Like the page to get alumni news, learn about alumni events and College happenings, view photos and more.

I also spent time with former Columbia basketball star **Richie Gordon.** Richie's son, a basketball player himself, also attended the game.

I caught up with **Andy Gershon** at several of the games. Andy played basketball at Columbia and is still in great shape. Dennis Klainberg '84 attended some games and sat with the Marching Band. It is hard to believe that 30 years have passed since he led the band and I was the featured juggler.

Significantly, none of the Columbia basketball players graduated this year. The Lions should compete next year for the Ivy League title. I encourage you to come to the games. My friend Ken Howitt '76 had a block of tickets reserved for his classmates and friends. Anyone interested in sitting with graduates from the 1980s should contact me.

I recently found a *New York Post* article in my files from July 2012 that I thought would be of interest: "For rent: prez's pad: Call it an Obama tax. The Morningside Heights apartment where President [Barack] Obama ['83] crashed as a student is back on the market with a $550 rent increase. The third-floor, two-bedroom walk-up on West 109th Street that Obama shared with a roommate in 1981 when he was a junior at Columbia University is available August 1 for $2400. Realtor Zak Kneider admits at least $200 of the increase is an attempt to cash in on the president's cachet. 'Similar apartments in the building would be around $2,200,' Kneider said. 'Believe it or not, people will want to live in an apartment where the president or a celebrity once lived. But it isn't that overpriced. Still, we are definitely playing that angle.'"

Kenny Chin writes, "Through the support of friends, clients and colleagues, I remain on the list of Super Lawyers and Best Lawyers in financing. I have been actively sought for speaking on financing programs through the American Bar Association and the Practicing Law Institute. I continue to chair the board of directors at the Charles B. Wang Community Health Center, which many of you know as the Chinatown Health Clinic.

"My wife, Lisa, has now been at Empire State Development, where she works on special projects, for more than two years. She worked on setting up the Sandy small business loan and grant programs funded by HUD monies. Lisa also facilitated the [real estate] closing of Cornell Tech at the end of the year, which was particularly exciting; Cornell Tech will be located on Roosevelt Island and will contribute to NYC being a tech capital. [Their son] Nicholas (20) is a sophomore at Michigan. [Their son] Austin (17) is a junior at The Child School/Legacy High School."

David Ko writes, "I am an associate professor of neurology at Keck School of Medicine of USC. My favorite Columbia professor was Donald Hood (psychology), who piqued my interest in the study of the brain. I specialize in epilepsy and lecture widely. My wife, Eva, and I live in Pasadena, Calif., in a house colored Columbia blue and white. We have a son, Kyle, applying to alma mater, and our other son, Ryan (10), is waiting in the wings.

"I was elected president of the Korean American Medicine Association. I have met many CC alumni through the KAMA meetings, including John Oh '81, Michael Lee '82, Sandra Lee '83 Barnard, John Kang '84 and Peter Park '86; I have also encountered P&S graduates and faculty such as Jeffery Ahn '87 P&S, Chris Park '01 P&S and Yanghee Woo. The 40th anniversary KAMA scientific meeting will be in Hawaii in August, and I would like more Columbia graduates to come to make it Lion affair."

Wayne Allyn Root reports that his book *The Ultimate Obama Survival Guide* was one of the top 10 bestselling political hardcover books in America in 2013, according to BookScan. Wayne joins some of the biggest names in politics on the list, such as Bill O'Reilly, Mark Levin and Charles Krauthammer. In addition, Wayne was guest host for Michael Savage's national talk show, *Savage Nation,* for one week in December (*Savage Nation* is the fourth highest-rated talk show in America, with about four million listeners on Cumulus Media Network). His guests included former GOP presidential contender Ron Paul, famed neurosurgeon Dr. Benjamin Carson and billionaire financial commentator Jim Rogers.

It was great to receive greetings from former wrestling greats **Andy Barth** and Yossi Rabin '84, winners of the Eisenhower Award (highest GPA of a Columbia varsity athlete) in 1981 and 1982, respectively.

Dante Alencastre writes, " I am a filmmaker/activist and I am honored to screen my latest documentary, *TransVisible: The Bamby Salcedo Story,* about a trans Latina activist, as part of the programming at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Creating Change Conference in Houston. For more information, contact me: transvisiblefilm.com."

Eddy Friedfeld writes, "I was saddened to learn that Richard Heffner '46, '47 GSAS passed away [Obituaries, Spring 2014]. I was a longtime fan of his PBS show, *The Open Mind* (according to *The New York Times,* he helped create what became WNET, New York City's public broadcasting station, and was its first general manager). I got to know him personally through our faculty appointments at NYU. I introduced myself to him at a meeting a few years ago as a College graduate, something we were both particularly proud of, and we instantly bonded. We had a few discussions regarding the Core Curriculum and how and what I was teaching. He had a keen intellect and a warm and infectious smile. He was both interesting and interested in a fellow College graduate and very supportive of passion and creativity. He will be missed."

David Hershey-Webb '83 performed songs by The Everly Brothers, The Beatles and Pete Seeger on March 29 at NYC's The Cutting Room.

Eddy delivered a eulogy for Sid Caesar, who passed away in February. It was published at cinema retro.com.

Michael Azerrad writes, "I'm editor-in-chief of The Talkhouse (thetalkhouse.com), the acclaimed website where smart, notable musicians write about current albums. Some of our contributors have been Ezra Koenig '06 from Vampire Weekend, Brian Betancourt '04 from Hospitality, composer Nico Muhly '03, the late Lou Reed, Michael Stipe, Laurie Anderson '69 Barnard, Win Marshall from Mumford & Sons and Huey Lewis."

Michael Broder reports, "My first book of poems, *This Life Now,* came out this spring. Last fall, my husband, poet Jason Schneiderman, became an assistant professor of English at Borough of Manhattan Community College."

In a recent article by Adam Liptak in *The New York Times,* he writes about Solicitor General Donald B. Verrilli Jr.'s defense of President **Barack Obama**'s health care law. **Miguel Estrada** is quoted as saying that criticism of Verrilli was "uninformed and unjustified."

In March **Steve Perlman** gave a talk at Columbia on technology that could revolutionize wireless performance.

David Hershey-Webb performed songs by The Everly Brothers, The Beatles and Pete Seeger at The Cutting Room in NYC on March 29. His daughter, Lilly Hershey-Webb, accompanied him.

Fellow class correspondent Jon White '85 and I recently had an enjoyable lunch. Jon shared a memorable video about the history of his family's coffee company (White Coffee). Jon's oldest son is Isaac '14.

Mark Simon '84 and his son, William, joined me and my son, David, for a Nets game at Barclays Center in early January. William is the varsity goalie for his soccer team.

I attended the John Jay Awards Dinner on March 5, where I had the pleasure of spending time with **Barry Rashkover** and his wife. Their two kids attend Horace Mann, and Barry is a partner at Sidley Austin.

At the dinner I also spoke to Michael Schmidtberger '82, who received a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement in 2013. He is a managing partner of Sidley's New York office as well as global co-head of Sidley's investment funds, advisers and derivatives practice team, which — according to the Sidley website — has won numerous top awards as a provider of legal services to the private funds industry. It is "a two-time winner of Chambers and Partners' 'Investment Funds Team of the Year for the U.S.'; *Institutional Investor's Alpha* magazine's 2014 Alpha Awards top 'onshore' (U.S.) law firm serving the hedge fund industry; four-time recipient of first-tier national rankings in the U.S. News – Best Lawyers 'Best Law Firms' rankings for Private Funds/Hedge Funds Law, and Derivatives and Futures Law; and ranked in the top band for Hedge Funds by Chambers USA every year since 2008."

Finally, I had the pleasure of catching up with Yale Fergang '87, '88E, a co-founder of Royal Capital Management, who in June completed his tenure as chair of the College's Board of Visitors.

84

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I hope everyone had a terrific time at reunion. Because of the timing of Class Notes deadlines and publication, I turned this column in before the big weekend but you're reading it afterward. So, stay tuned for the next issue for a full report.

David B. Stafford, SVP and

general counsel with McGraw-Hill Education, lives with his wife, Caryn '85 Barnard, and their children in Scarsdale, N.Y., the same town where fellow former Lions tennis player **Ed Ho** and his family reside. (I like to think of myself as a decent tennis player but, in fact, both David and Ed were far better, leading me to make a permanent beeline for the Marching Band.)

David is in touch with Brian Margolis '85 (in Larchmont, N.Y.). Brian is also a friend of this writer, having been his "tap," or nominee, for the Senior Society of Sachems.

David Cole writes, "I am a senior financial analyst at Takeda Pharmaceuticals in the northwest 'burbs of Chicago. I volunteered during this past tax season with VITA [Volunteer Income Tax Assistance] (my third time), doing taxes for the working poor. It is very interesting, as I meet many different types of people; among them are poor people with and without families and new immigrants living in the United States in order to have a better life. And the tax software is pretty cool!"

Alex Dukas reports, "If you find yourself in Copenhagen, Denmark, anytime soon, just drop by The Coffeehouse at Peblinge Dossering 4 2200 København N. We opened on Valentine's Day. During the past decades I have spent a lot of time in cafés on three continents, and often thought I wanted to have my own. Now I do."

Evan Kingsley checks in: "Now that my daughter, Ava Kingsley '17 Barnard, is at Columbia, I'm back on campus periodically and feel the warmth of that reconnection. I'm also envious because her classes are just so … well, cool.

"I thought I'd write because of this and other recent Columbia intersections: I attended the bar mitzvah of the son of my freshman roommate, **Kenny Bernstein;** had dinner with a great friend since freshman orientation, **Len Hersh;** had breakfast with another friend since freshman year, **Jeff Rashba,** who has since made *aliyah* to Israel; and made a hire on the recommendation of Elaine Charnov '84 Barnard.

"Of course, both my daughters are technically Barnard 'products,' as I'm married to Dara Meyers-Kingsley '83 Barnard.

"With a partner, Adam Gaynor '03 TC, '03 JTS, I formed Plan A Advisors last summer, a management consulting firm for mid-sized and large nonprofits that include colleges and universities, independent schools, cultural institutions and human service and Jewish agencies.

"So it's all CU, all the time, and it's all very, very good."

Ken Ofori-Atta, a 2011 recipient of a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement, writes, "Been back in Accra, Ghana, since 1990, having completed Yale's School of Management and worked with Morgan Stanley and Salomon Brothers. Formed an investment bank in Ghana and retired last year. Created a family office and dabbling in politics. One son is a freshman at Williams. Have a daughter in grade 11 and a son in grade seven."

After his narrow loss for state representative against the Rhode Island Speaker of the House, **Mark Binder** has returned to his roots with *Cinderella Spinderella,* the first illustrated e-book for families that allows readers to choose what Cinderella and the Prince look like. "This story began as a spoken-word piece for diverse audiences," Mark says. "When I started to create the book, I realized that readers could be empowered to pick their own version of the story." *Cinderella Spinderella* is available for all e-book readers.

Once again, **Yossi Rabin** has good news — the arrival of his fourth grandchild, Y'honatan Shalom Hatab, on February 15.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 28–31, 2015
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85

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Steve Ross reports for Orient News Network in Tokyo, covering topics from Fukushima to pop culture. Last July, he received the first-place Gold Award in the Stanford University US-Asia Technology Management Center's Untold Story in Innovation journalism award competition. Then, several months ago, he met with honored Beta Theta Pi brother Tom "Tuna" Duval '87, who is vice consul at the U.S. Embassy in Japan.

Steve says that Tom reflected on his heady salad days at Columbia and how he misses alma mater. Steve continues, "We snapped a photo under Tokyo's Nihonbashi (Japan Bridge), the traditional 'kilometer-zero' marker point from which all distances in Japan were measured. We both sported Columbia blue for the occasion! Columbians in Japan are welcome to give me an e-shout at steve.ross@orientnews.tv."



Divya Singh '87 (left) joined Jordan Kessler '96 and Alexandra Hernandez '05 on a whale-watching trip in Laguna San Ignacio in Baja California, Mexico, in March. The outing was sponsored by the Natural Resources Defense Council, where Kessler and Hernandez work.

PHOTO: JACOB SCHERR

As briefly noted in the last column, former FCC chair **Julius Genachowski** has joined the Washington, D.C., office of The Carlyle Group, the private-equity firm that made its name hiring high-level government officials. Julius, who pioneered President Barack Obama '83's online fundraising strategy in the 2008 election, will become managing director of Carlyle's U.S. Buyout Fund, the firm's flagship investment pool. He will seek investments in global technology, media and telecommunications, according to Carlyle. The publicly held firm owns stakes in the audience measurement firm Nielsen, network provider CommScope, telecom services company Syniverse and SS&C Technologies, a supplier of specialized software to the financial services industry.

"We're seeing a wave of tech-driven innovation that's creating opportunities around the Internet, mobile, cloud and media," Genachowski said in a statement. "It's a great time to be returning to the private sector and focusing on investing and building businesses; I'm bullish on mobile while recognizing wired infrastructure will be critical far into the future. Mobile is going to get bigger and bigger."

Joe Titlebaum co-founded Mezzobit, a big data start-up that enables digital publishers and marketers to control and monetize their audiences. In January, it was named one of the 10 hottest start-ups in New York by AlleyWatch. Joe lives in Bethesda, Md., with his wife, Julie Mack, and their kids, Ben, Aaron and Eve.

On the international front, **Denis Searby** reports from Sweden. He is a professor at Stockholm University, teaching ancient Greek, and the section head of classics ("We don't have our own department," he says). Active on the Alumni Representative Committee, he adds, "I am happy that a couple of students from Sweden will be entering Columbia next year." At this writing, Dennis also was looking forward to seeing his Columbia Greek professor, Richard Janko, who was scheduled to go to Stockholm for a workshop in April; Janko is now a professor at Michigan.

Seth Schachner writes, "All is well in Miami. I launched a business development enterprise, Strat Americas, providing strategic guidance and connecting digital partnerships in the Americas (stratamericas online.com). Latin America is a focus and I have a group of clients in New York and Europe, so I'm back in the city often. My wife, Allison, has a consulting and legal practice focused on education and special needs children. Our children, Miles (13) and Liv (10), love life here. I'd welcome the chance to catch up with classmates when they pass through Miami."

Adam Tanner is a fellow at the Institute for Quantitative Social Science at Harvard. His book, *What Stays in Vegas: The World of Personal Data — Lifeblood of Big Business — and the End of Privacy as We Know It,* comes out in September. The publisher's blurb says the book "exposes the greatest threat to privacy today. It's not the NSA, but good-old American companies. Internet giants, leading retailers and other firms are gathering data behind the scenes with little oversight from anyone."

The blurb explains that *What Stays in Vegas* puts the spotlight on Caesars Entertainment as a means to explore the benefits and dark side of information gathering: "The

secret to the company's success lies in their one unrivaled asset: they are able to track the activities of the overwhelming majority of gamblers who walk in [the casino doors]. They know exactly what games we like to play, what foods we enjoy for breakfast, when we prefer to visit, who our favorite hostess might be and exactly how to keep us coming back for more. Caesars' dogged data-gathering methods have been so successful that they grew to become the world's largest casino operator, and they have inspired companies from across industries to ramp up their own data mining in the hopes of boosting their targeted marketing efforts. Some do this themselves. Some rely on data brokers. Others clearly enter a moral gray zone that would make American consumers deeply uncomfortable."

Another Boston-area alum, **Tom Scotti,** writes: "My wife, Karen, and I have lived in Massachusetts for more than 25 years and have spent the last 20 in the small town of Medfield, about 20 miles southwest of Boston. There we raised our daughter, Anne '16, who is having a tremendous experience, [and is] busy with both sorority life and student government (she is a Class of 2016 representative).

"Four years ago, Karen and I became involved with saving the birthplace of Lowell Mason in Medfield from demolition by developers. Mason is recognized as the father of music education in America and was instrumental in adding music to the regular school curriculum in Boston in 1838, where he was the first music superintendent. For those outside the music education world he is probably best known as the composer of the tune for the nursery rhyme *Mary Had a Little Lamb*; he also popularized the holiday song *Joy to the World*.

"Coincidently, I met Karen while singing with the Columbia Glee Club, so it seems fitting that fate would put us in position to work together on this project. We are restoring the house to turn it into a museum and music practice and performance space. The cost of restoring a historic home is extensive, so fundraising is important and donations are much appreciated. People can learn more about Mason and the efforts to restore the house at lowellmasonhouse.org."

Double kudos go to two classmates. First to **Lane Palmer,** who recently was named president and managing partner of Pediatric Urology Associates, based in Lake Success, N.Y. In addition, his new textbook, *Pediatric and Adolescent Urologic Imaging*, was published earlier this year. The book provides a comprehensive reference for health care providers of children and adolescents with urologic conditions. Each chapter was written collaboratively, with at least one author from each specialty, melding the expertise of each specialist and offering it to readers in a manner aimed at reinforcing the integration of clinical information to radiologic imaging.

Our second set of kudos goes to **Tom Vinciguerra** for a great intro to the Spring *CCT*'s Varsity Show section. Tom also has been named executive editor at Indian Country Today Media Network. I bumped into Tom at the 27th annual Spectator Awards Dinner, held in February at the swanky New York Athletic Club. Seeing Tom was the second most special part of the evening (tied with listening to Katie Couric); the most special was watching my son, Isaac '14, receive the Quintana Roo Dunne Award for Visual Achievement to *Spec*.

In February **John Phelan, Bryan Barnett** and I attended an on-campus forum on the many aspects of the Core Curriculum, with many current and former students offering suggestions for improvement. Ironically, many of the comments and criticisms (administrative hurdles, faculty accessibility, flaws in the curriculum content) could have been made 30 years ago.

Another on-campus highlight for me this past winter was when my youngest son, Josh, and I attended the Columbia-Yale game. It took place in late February and was nationally televised — terrific timing, as the Lions notched a 16-point win. Many of you may be aware that the Columbia basketball team finished its regular season just one win short of its first 20-win season in more than 40 years. They then won two more games and reached the quarterfinal round of the CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament (CIT), missing a potential tying shot at the buzzer. The Lions finished third in the Ivies and do not lose any graduating seniors, so next year could be truly special.

And finally, speaking of truly special, our 30th reunion is less than 12 months away.

Save the date for Alumni Reunion Weekend, Thursday, May 28–Sunday, May 31, 2015. The Alumni Office is looking to coordinate an initial meeting this fall to establish a Reunion Committee. The office sets up all of the weekend's marquis activities but we have the ability to customize a few of the class-specific events, which we certainly want to do. The most important job for our group, though, is to reach out to classmates to encourage them to be there. Please reach out to me or to Renée Hites, assistant director, class giving, for the Columbia College Fund (rh2663@columbia.edu or 212-851-7452) if you wish to be involved. While the meetings likely will be held in Manhattan, in today's Skype/GoToMeeting/conference call world, most anyone is able to participate.

Margaret McCarthy '87, who lives in Ithaca, N.Y., has joined the Ph.D. club, having defended her dissertation in human development in March.

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Twenty-eight years ago, a group of highly educated and motivated 22-year-olds left Morningside Heights to follow their passions and dreams. Merriam-Webster defines nostalgia as "pleasure and sadness that is caused by remembering something from the past and wishing that you could experience it again." As we turn 50, are any of you nostalgic about our time at Columbia? If so, email me some of the thoughts. It's a milestone year for many of us. You can write to either address at the top of the column or submit them via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. It will make up for the dearth of updates I get.

Congrats to **Bill Fink,** who is the associate executive director for development and external affairs at Supportive Children's Advocacy Network. SCAN is a nonprofit that supports high-quality programs for the families of East Harlem and the South Bronx. It reaches more than 7,000 children and 200 families annually.

87

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I am happy to start this issue's column with a hearty welcome to the newest member of the Class of 87's Ph.D. club, **Margaret McCarthy.** Margaret defended her dissertation in human development on March 26, and, as a fellow member of the club, I know what a wonderful and stressful experience that is. Margaret practices law and lives in Ithaca, N.Y., with her family. Her spouse, Alison Redick, is starting a consulting business focusing on college counseling, while daughter Hannah is in her first year of college at SUNY Albany and daughter Rebecca is in high school in Ithaca.

As of September 2012 and November 2013, respectively, **Thomas Duval** received tenure and a promotion from the State Department. His new assignment is in the American Embassy in Kuwait, where he will be chief of the American Citizen Services Unit effective this August. Thomas says that his wife, Carole, and daughter, Kate (13), "are very excited about seeing a new part of the world after two years in Japan."

Rima Jolivet has a new job as well — she is now a consultant on maternal health goal-setting for ending preventable maternal mortality at the Maternal Health Task Force at the Harvard School of Public Health. This task force, the flagship program of the Women and Health Initiative at the school, is a facilitator of partnerships to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity around the world and contributes to shaping collective efforts to improve the quality of maternal health care worldwide. The primary goal of this project is to achieve consensus through consultation with global and national partners on both global and country-level targets for maternal mortality reduction post-2015; it also aims to develop a strategic framework for achieving them, to be launched at the PMNCH Partners Forum in June/July in anticipation of the United Nations General Assembly in September. Rima lives in Dorchester, Mass.

Lee Ilan, who joined me at Citi Field for Mets Opening Day, reported the following great news: "Although it's wild that some of our classmates have kids in college, I'm happy to welcome another member to the parenthood club: **Anthony Alvarez** and his partner, Andrea, live in Brooklyn and had an adorable daughter, Nina Lee Alvarez, on December 9, 2013."

Thanks, Lee! And congratulations to Anthony and Andrea!

Eli Kavon writes, "As I begin my third year as rabbi of Beth Ami Congregation in Boca Raton, Fla., I wanted to share a recent experience with fellow Columbians. I led two discussions at a movie theater in nearby Delray Beach after the showing of the Polish film *Aftermath*. While the story of two brothers who uncover the horrible truth about the fate of the Jews in their native Polish town is fictional, it was inspired by events that took place during WWII. The film is compelling and powerful, exploring historical memories repressed and revealed. The Polish filmmakers and actors are truly heroic in their willingness to confront the past and the reality of Jewish-Polish relations both before and during the Shoah."

This is definitely a film I now want to see.

The mailbag was a little light this time around. Please don't be shy! You can write me at either address at the top of the column or send a note through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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As I'm among the newest parents in our class, I'm still learning the ropes of childhood education. (My kids are both in preschool; whatever was left of my spare time is now spent serving on the school's board of directors.) This recently gave me the chance to catch up with **Jessica Davidson Miller** while emailing back and forth about schooling options. Jessica, like me, lives in the Washington, D.C., area and has school-age children. She is a law partner at the Washington office of Skadden, where she specializes in complex civil litigation.

Nikos Andreadis wrote from Port Washington, Long Island, where he and his wife, Yvonne Knapp Andreadis '90, have lived since 1997 with their daughter, Sophia (14), and son, Georgie (11). Nikos graduated from Boston University Law and took over the management of his family's private mortgage lending business in Astoria, Queens, three years later.

Another Long Island resident, **Eve Jordan Combemale,** reports, "I live in Bridgehampton with my three children (15, 18 and 20) and sell real estate through Sotheby's." Eve expressed disappointment at having to miss last year's 25th reunion. "It was my son's graduation weekend but I'd love to connect with classmates," she says. You can reach her at eve.combemale@sothebyshomes.com.

Patrick Crawford writes, "I practice tax law and run my firm, Crawford Tax Law Group, in Los Angeles. I very much enjoy the entrepreneurial challenges as well as the tax practice (particularly state and local tax issues). Growing this firm has been the most satisfying professional experience since I left the legal academy and returned to the 'real world' of private practice. I still have the scholarship bug, however, and am publishing two law review articles this year. I have also started a blog focusing on progressive takes on U.S. economic regulation (lawcrit.com). I owe very much indeed to the College and its faculty (particularly the unforgettables: Raymond Geuss ['66, '71 GSAS], Edward Said, Gisela Striker and Andreas Huyssen, to name just a few). My time at Columbia teed up an interesting life path."

Timothy Dalton is based in Nazaret, Ethiopia. He writes, "In the middle of last year I received a $13.7 million cooperative agreement award from the United States Agency for International Development to establish a research consortium linking scientists from the United States with those in Ethiopia, Senegal and Niger to work on the adaptation of sorghum and pearl millet to climate change in semi-arid areas. I've committed to building the program and the research portfolio during the next five years with the aim of raising more funds to expand the program to other countries in East and West Africa."

Ben Horowitz's new book on developing startup companies, *The Hard Thing About Hard Things: Building a Business When There Are No Easy Answers,* was the focus of an event hosted by President Lee C. Bollinger in Low Library in March. Also feted in Low this year was **Jonathan S. Lavine**, who received the Gershom Mendes Seixas Award at the annual Columbia/Barnard Hillel dinner. The honor is given to those who have made outstanding contributions to Jewish student life at the University.

Keep the updates coming! I look forward to your emails, which you can submit to me at the addresses at the top of the column or via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. I also encourage everyone to join the Columbia College Class of 1988 Facebook group; it's a convenient way to stay in touch with classmates.

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To kick things off, I hope everyone had a great time at our 25th reunion! The deadline for Class Notes passed before the big weekend, so you'll have to stay tuned for the Fall issue for the full report.

Last winter I was sitting at a sectional swim meet in Worcester, Mass., watching my daughter, Julia (15), compete. In between races, my eyes wandered to the swim records on the wall. One was set by **Karen Ehrlich** in 1985, and I immediately thought that it had to be my Theta sorority sister, now **Karen Ehrlich Zotos**. I found Karen through Facebook and she sent in a big update.

Karen writes, "I am not sure if I am more in shock that it is our 25th reunion, or that my son is graduating from high school, all on the same weekend! Yikes! I remember bringing him to kindergarten, and then it gets fast and blurry. I think of my NYC days often. I have been back twice, once for a work thing, and then to show my kids the city.

"I moved to Texas a year after graduation, [before which] I was living with **Lori Koss** on the East Side. But then I met Pete Zotos, who later became my husband, at a wedding in San Diego, and quit my job in NYC and moved to Dallas. Lori and my parents thought I was crazy!

"I worked in the insurance/healthcare admin field for 15 years, then got my teaching certificate. I have been a middle school teacher in the Dallas public schools for seven years. Every day is a new and bizarre day. Learning takes a backseat to hormones! I work at my community middle school, and so all my kids have gone there. It is very diverse and interesting.

"Pete, who is a restaurateur, and I were married 20 years ago; we live in a beautiful area of the city known as Lakewood. He owns St. Pete's Dancing Marlin, which has been open for 19 years. We have three teenagers: the oldest is Max (17), followed by Annalyse (16) and Alexa (14). Max will be a Texas A&M Aggie in the fall. Annalyse rows crew on the varsity team, and Alexa is a 6-1 volleyball player.

"Prior to becoming a teacher, I was an active volunteer with the PTA and raised money for the schools through the Lakewood Home Festival. I also developed a pretty good game of tennis. I stopped swimming but started running and completed my one and only marathon in Chicago in 2006. I checked that off my list!"

Karen also wrote that her older brother, Jim Ehrlich '86E, passed away in December 2008 from melanoma. He had two young girls and a wife, whom Karen visited in Minneapolis this spring.

Kirk Ruddy writes, "All is well! I live in Darien, Conn., with my boys, Max (12), Luc (11) and Ben (8). I also live three houses from my sister, Kari (who helps me out tremendously), so I also have my nephew and godson, Nick (14), and niece, Kira (7), around all the time. These kids are pretty much my life these days! I work for SC Lowy Financial Services out of Hong Kong, so I travel back and forth a few times a year."

Jill Chamberlain left Manhattan a decade ago for Austin, where she founded a screenwriting school, The Screenplay Workshop. According to Jill, "I've been leading group workshops and consulting privately on feature film screenplays, using techniques I developed during my years as a struggling screenwriter and filmmaker in Manhattan. Austin has quite the burgeoning film scene, and my program has been growing like crazy. Former students and clients have had their screenplays optioned, made into award-winning feature films, garner them Hollywood representation, land them professional screenwriting assignments and get recognized by top competitions including the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences' Nicholl Fellowship."

Recently Jill signed a contract to publish her book about "the nutshell technique," the screenplay-structuring method she created. Look for it in bookstores in 2015.

Joel Alter is back in New York, lives in Washington Heights and is director of admissions for JTS' Rabbinical and Cantorial Schools, up the block from Columbia.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 28–31, 2015
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After a short-lived career as a lawyer and a longer one as a stay-at-home mom, **Aili Bresnahan**

(née Webber) went back to school for a Ph.D. in philosophy and now teaches at the University of Dayton in Ohio. Her specialization is aesthetics, particularly philosophy of dance.

Diana Semel Allen, in North Carolina, has a new job, too. In January she joined ChannelAdvisor as VP and general counsel. The company is a provider of cloud-based e-commerce solutions that enable retailers and manufacturers to increase global sales.

When he last checked in, **Michael Kinstlick** was CEO of Coppersea Distilling, a farm distillery in New York's Hudson Valley. He is still CEO but the business is relocating to a permanent home in New Paltz, N.Y. This seems like a great idea for a road trip, no? The interesting bit about this arrangement is that Michael lives in and works remotely from Berkeley, Calif., where he, Seth Bain '89 and others founded a professional Ultimate Frisbee team, the San Francisco FlameThrowers.

What a treat to hear from **Jonathan Earle,** who reports: "I started on January 1 as director of the University Honors Program at Kansas. I'll still teach one course a year but most of the time I'll be using the things I learned at Columbia to enrich the educational experience of Kansas' most talented undergrads. It's a very different place from Morningside Heights but believe it or not, there are hills, I've never seen a tornado and the basketball is a little bit better (although congrats to the Lions on a great men's hoops season)."

New jobs certainly abound in this column, especially in the family of **Laura Shaw Frank,** who writes, "After 14 years in 'exile,' we are moving back to the Big Apple. [My husband,] Aaron [Frank '96 SW] will be the new associate principal of SAR H.S. in Riverdale. I will teach general and Jewish history at SAR as well as do research for my dissertation at the Center for Jewish History."

What this means to me is that Laura will have no geographic excuse to miss reunion — a mere 11 months away!

It's time for an update from **Noreen Whysel** (née Flanigan), whom we last heard from right before her fabulous trip to Ireland. She graduated in February from Pratt Institute with an M.S.I..I.S. and is an information/management consultant, primarily for The Information Architecture Institute. She also does web design, coding and data analysis for small companies and nonprofits. She is job hunting with her shiny new master's and would love to keep working in digital archives, which she did last summer and fall at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Lehman Social Sciences Library, respectively.

Noreen's daughters are in 11th grade at Bronx Science and eighth grade at Hunter College H.S. The college tours have begun in full force. If anyone else is college-tripping these days, please get in touch with Noreen to celebrate or commiserate. As this is my area of professional expertise, I urge you to choose to celebrate this exciting time in your child's life.

That's it for now. Please keep the news rolling in. You can write me at either address at the top of the column or use *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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Greetings, all!

Dr. **Jennifer Garfein Ashton** '00 P&S writes, "In addition to my Englewood, N.J., gynecology practice, I am the ABC News senior medical contributor for *Good Morning America* and *World News* and am a co-host on the nationally syndicated daytime medical talk show *The Doctors*. Having these media platforms puts me on the cutting edge of medical news even as I remain firmly entrenched in my busy practice and the clinical care of my patients. I enjoy these roles, which allow me to communicate medical information to people of all ages. In my spare time, I am in the master's program in clinical nutrition at Columbia's Institute of Human Nutrition; my father, Dr. Oscar Garfein '61, '65 P&S, '97 Business is taking a class with me. We are happy to be back at our old stomping grounds!"

Elias Dokas is married, lives in northern New Jersey and has two children, Peter (8) and Katerina (6). He is a partner at a private equity firm, MidOcean Partners, where he focuses on investments in the business services and technology areas. Elias keeps in touch with **Chris Beach** and a number of others from KDR. He also has stayed in contact with **Annie Giarratano Della Pietra** and **Ali Namvar,** both of whom were high school classmates.

The New York City Council elected **Melissa Mark-Viverito** as speaker, the second-most-powerful position in NYC government. Melissa is a council member from East Harlem. She was born in Puerto Rico and is the first Latina to lead the 51-member municipal legislature.

Barry A. Bunin is the CEO of Collaborative Drug Discovery, which celebrated its 10th anniversary at the UCSF Mission Bay conference center in April. There were presentations from scientific leaders from Rockefeller Foundation, Genentech, Amgen, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and NIH as well as a number of biotech startups that use CDD's drug discovery software. The company's product, the CDD Vault, is a hosted biological and chemical database that securely manages private and external data; at this writing, it had more than a quarter-billion data points.

Barry lives in Belmont, Calif., with his wife, Debbie (a biologist), and kids, Evan (8) and Zachary (4). He wants folks to know he has extra space if anyone is flying through SFO and looking for a more personal place to stay while in town. He can be reached at bbunin@collaborativedrug.com.

Kif Scheuer writes, "I've been living with my wife and three kids in San Rafael, Calif., for seven years and work in the nonprofit energy and climate field. I recently took a job as climate change program director at the Local Government Commission, a statewide nonprofit focused on supporting elected officials who want to make their communities more sustainable, healthy and resilient. I've been focused on launching the first statewide 2014 California Adaptation Forum, scheduled for Sacramento in August — would love to see some CC folks there! While in San Diego for a conference recently, I met up with **Tom Nishioka,** who lives there, and spent an hour or so surfing at sunset in La Jolla."

I hope everyone has a sunny, adventurous summer with a few lazy afternoons thrown in for good measure. Write me about it (or anything else that's update-worthy) at either of the addresses at the top of the column or via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Until next time … cheers!

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Dear '92ers: You probably saw in the last issue the sad news of **Meredith Norton**'s passing on August 2, 2013. Read her obituary from the Spring 2014 *CCT* here: college.columbia.edu/cct/spring14/obituaries. Send a bit of love to the American Cancer Society in Meredith's memory, and consider picking up her well-received book, *Lopsided: How Having Breast Cancer Can Be Really Distracting*. Spare a thought, too, for Meredith's husband, Thibault Jousse, and her son, Lucas.

Amy Salomon-Kohn wrote from Maplewood, N.J., where she lives with son, Jacob (16), and daughter, Jessie (11). Amy says she's been an educator in independent schools for more than 20 years, "teaching English and dance, and being a dean and a college counselor." She is director of college guidance at Mary McDowell Friends School in Brooklyn Heights, a school for students with language-based learning disabilities.

Ethan O'Rafferty (he was "O"-less in college) is VP for alliances and channels at EnterpriseDB, and he has spent 17 years volunteering "to create a parent involvement movement called Minds in Motion, providing after-school academic challenge and character development workshops to kids."

He adds, "As Columbia's first male women's studies major, I'm glad that the workshops include subjects like feminism and social justice activism."

Eva Graburn has lived in Portugal since 1993 with her Portuguese husband. In 2008, they started Terracotta Journeys, a tourism company that offers cycling and hiking tours of Iberia. "We are currently in a partnership with REI Adventures and running both its 'Portugal Coastal Hiking' tour and a cycling tour, 'Portugal & Spain Cycling: The Alentejo to Andalusia,'" writes Eva. "We'd love to have some alums join us!"

Jennifer Fredricks is molding young minds at Connecticut College, where she has been promoted to full professor of human development. She specializes in motivation, adolescent development and extracurricular participation. Her first book, *Eight Myths of Disengagement: Creating Classrooms of Deep Learning*, came out in March. Jennifer lives in the Constitution State with her husband, Harvey, and sons, Jacob (10) and Dylan (7). She enjoys swimming with a local masters team and long-distance running.

David Mozina (Carman 105) is putting his religion major and the doctoral degree in comparative religion he earned at Harvard to good use: In fall 2013, he became an assistant professor of Chinese religions at Boston College: "I study the revival of Daoist and Buddhist religious practices in the south China countryside after government prohibitions of local religious practices were relaxed in the early 1990s," he says. Before that, he taught at UNC-Charlotte for 4½ years.

I feel like this last note should be done sports announcer style, a skill that totally eludes me. **Alex**

Michael Bitz '94, '98 TC Uses Comics as Vehicle for Creativity

By Justin DeFreitas

Time was, comic books were considered the adolescent's gateway to ruin. In the 1950s, Senate hearings on juvenile delinquency focused largely on the medium and its purveyors as the roots of a nationwide epidemic. Whether scapegoated for society's ills or merely dismissed as childish entertainment, this form of storytelling — words and pictures arranged sequentially — has rarely garnered much respect.

Michael Bitz '94, '98 TC, an assistant professor of teacher education at Ramapo College of New Jersey, views comics quite differently and has spent 12 years developing and growing an educational curriculum centered on the medium. The Comic Book Project (comic bookproject.org) builds literacy skills by helping children write, draw and publish their own comic books.

"The Comic Book Project was born from a desire to do something different," Bitz says. "At Teachers College I was exposed to different kinds of educational theory and program ideas, including learning through the arts — how the arts and creativity in general is utilized or not utilized in teaching programs."

Bitz launched a pilot project at a New York City middle school in 2001. Then, after partnering with The After-School Corp., a nonprofit that supports programs in hundreds of New York City public schools, he implemented it in 40 more middle schools. Since then, the project has expanded to all 50 states and nine other countries, and has reached more than 150,000 students.

The Comic Book Project also gives students a chance to reflect on their experiences, ideas and communities. Many schools have applied themes to the work: Students in Hawaii produced comics about the effects of pollution, while Native American students in Washington State did theirs on the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. Customizing the subject matter is a crucial element in engaging students, Bitz says.

Bitz didn't read comics much when he was growing up in Wyckoff, N.J. He was an aspiring musician and frequently made the trek from his quiet suburban home across the George Washington Bridge in pursuit of the diverse and stimulating culture of New York City. He further embraced big-city life — and delved into music full-time — at the College, where he studied western classical, jazz and popular music. After earning a degree in music, however, he set out on a different course. "Exposure to many different people from different backgrounds influenced my decision to go into education," he says.

Bitz put in time as a student teacher en route to a Ph.D. in education, but the experience convinced him that he wasn't cut out for full-time teaching so he instead focused on curriculum development.

The concept of using comics as an educational tool is hardly new. "People have been advocating for this since the 1800s, when schools became like factories," Bitz says. But transforming the idea into a replicable curriculum that is easy to implement was key.

The process is simple by design: Students are introduced to the language of comic books, including lines, panels, sequencing, word balloons and character development. Once they've completed a draft, they get feedback from their teachers, then turn the draft into a finished product, penciling the artwork, writing dialogue and captions, and inking and coloring. The books are published online and sometimes in print — "Getting your name in print is an incredible motivator," Bitz says — and exhibitions are mounted so that students can celebrate their work with friends, family, guardians and teachers.

The project quickly found success in New York City. "Teachers saw kids doing things they [the teachers] didn't realize they could do — reading and writing without worksheets," says Bitz.



Michael Bitz '94, '98 TC works with teachers in Nigeria; a student comic.
PHOTOS: COURTESY MICHAEL BITZ '94, '98 TC

He had been financing the endeavor himself but, with the program up and running, returned to Teachers College to ask if it would act as an incubator. With the Columbia name behind him, Bitz busied himself writing grant applications. A few were successful, enabling him to expand the program.

"Kids are drawn to comics, so engagement was easy," says Marge Pellegrino, program manager for Owl & Panther in Tucson, which provides expressive arts programming to refugee families affected by torture and trauma. Owl & Panther began implementing the Comic Book Project curriculum in 2006. "I started with the premise that the kids had knowledge that others didn't," Pellegrino says: "They were experts — they knew what it was like to have a parent incarcerated, or they knew what it was like to be a refugee. What should others know about it? How could we show those things through story?"

Pellegrino's students took to the exercise immediately. "They were elevated in their own eyes by the process," she says. "The kids with less English language fluency found they had a way to shine."

For the most part, Bitz has been able to launch the programs remotely, using Skype and social media to train and communicate with teachers around the world. But not all countries have such ready access to technology. Bitz recently returned from Nigeria, where he launched an international program in person for the first time. The program faced different obstacles in Nigeria, however, because comics are not popular there. "We first had to teach teachers what a comic book is," Bitz says.

"But it's not really about the comics," he adds. "The Comic Book Project represents a broader mission of creativity in the classroom, advocating for creative projects as learning projects. It's not about comics; it's about comics as vehicles for creativity."

Justin DeFreitas *is a Bay Area writer, editor and cartoonist.*

Oberweger and his wife, Caroline '06 TC, reported the great news of the arrival of Samuel Gideon Oberweger on January 24. Samuel's middle name honors his late grandfather, Gideon '65. Alex is Columbia's associate athletics director for strategic communications.

My first few issues as your new correspondent have been encouraging, but I want to hear from more of you. Don't be shy. You can write me at either address at the top of the column or through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Roar, Lions!

93

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Greetings, classmates! Summer is nearly here and I'm sure those who live on the East Coast or in the Midwest are thrilled the long winter is over.

We start with some good news: In March, **Ruben Fontes** was named president of Blue Earth's solar division, Blue Earth Solar. Blue Earth is an alternative/renewable energy and energy efficiency services company based in Nevada. Prior, Reuben was with Chevron and, before that, Swinerton Builders, where his career focused on renewable energy.

Congratulations, Reuben!

Also in March, *IffThen*, the new **Brian Yorkey** and Tom Kitt '96 musical, opened on Broadway. To celebrate, the Columbia Alumni Association hosted a special event including a reception at the Edison Hotel, followed by a performance of *IffThen*, followed by a "Columbia Talkback." The last part entailed a Q&A for more than 200 alumni with Brian and Tom. **Rachel Mintz** — who was seeing the show for a second time, having seen it first with **Mia Ricci** — said the evening was "excellent" and that she spent time with **Rita Pietropinto-Kitt** (who of course was there!) as well as **Yumi Koh, Joe Laszlo, Stephen Morfesis, Adrian Bordoni, Jaishree Capoor, Sonya Kim** and **Eric Roston.** Rachel also saw Karen Sendler '94, Joan Campion '92, Dane Holmes '92 and so many others from the classes of the '90s that "there wasn't nearly enough time to catch up with everyone. What a great event!"

In addition, Rachel provided two updates: **Mike Crowley** and his wife, Alexis Hart, celebrated their 10th anniversary last summer around the same time they moved to Meadville, Pa., where they both teach in the English department at Allegheny College. They have two daughters, Amelia (8) and Agatha (6). **Mark Rutstein** lives in Westfield, N.J., with his wife, Mesina, and daughter, Milana. Mark stopped practicing medicine in 2004 and has been developing anticancer drugs in the pharmaceutical industry ever since.

Many thanks to Rachel for providing news. Please keep sending updates! You can use either address at the top of the column or submit them via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Columbia College Alumni on Facebook

Check out the Columbia College Alumni page!
facebook.com/alumnicc
Like the page to get alumni news, learn about alumni events and College happenings, view photos and more.

94

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Some good news to report!

Joe Ayala shared his first Class Note — "It only took me almost exactly 20 years," he writes — including the great news that in February he took on the role of executive director of the College's Double Discovery Center. [Editor's note: See "Around the Quads" in the Spring issue.]

Sharon Siegel '00L recently published a book, *A Jewish Ceremony for Newborn Girls: The Torah's Covenant Affirmed*. She writes, "It incorporates history, philosophy and social trends, and examines both traditional sources and modern feminist writings. I wrote it across the span of 10 years. I didn't set out to write a book; I'm a lawyer and the mother of four children, living in New Jersey. The book started out as a short article, and it snowballed as my research progressed and my interests grew."

In February, **Danny Franklin** married Erica Guyer. Danny is a pollster and a principal at the Benenson Strategy Group, where he oversees a team conducting research for the Obama administration. Erica is an associate general counsel at the Rockefeller Foundation, where she provides legal advice on grants to organizations aiding the poor.

Congratulations to everyone, and thanks for sharing your updates. Please keep the news coming — we're all eager to hear what you've been up to. You can write me at either address at the top of the column or via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Until next time.

REUNION WEEKEND
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95

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Jodi Vermaas (née Douglas), a first-time *CCT* contributor, was inspired to write in after reading about Columbia's worldwide community in the Winter 2013–14 issue of *CCT* about her family's global experience.

Jodi, who earned a Ph.D. in pastoral counseling and an M.S. in mental health counseling, and her husband of 16 years, Garry Vermaas '01E, have traveled throughout Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Three of their five children are from Asia and they frequently return. She writes, "As founders of a nonprofit [Priority One Worldwide], we have lived and worked in various international cities while supporting orphans and those recovering from emotional and physical trauma. It has been a privilege for me to counsel women and children through various crises and environmental challenges." She adds that Garry has had the opportunity to build affordable housing in areas of need.

The couple began their group as a way to support indigenous missionaries in India and Myanmar in their aim to take orphans off the street and provide education and physical, emotional and spiritual care. Jodi continues: "Some of them lost parents due to trauma, so I aim to do culturally appropriate trauma work in counseling when I visit. Since we adopted our two boys (ages 3 and 14) 14 months ago from China, we have been in the United States so they can learn English. Our hope is to get back into the field ASAP!"

A big mazel tov to **Mark Kravitz,** who is marrying his longtime partner, Jonathan Morse Kravitz, in the Berkshires in June. The ceremony will be conducted by Rabbi **Jon Berkun.** Mark and Jon live in Miami with their kids, Hershel (7) and Ava (3). Congratulations!

The news was light this issue; let's aim to do better next time. Think about sending an update with all the ways you plan to enjoy the summer. You can write me at either address at the top of the column or send a note through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

96

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Greetings, fellow CC '96ers!

After earning a Ph.D. in film studies from UCLA and spending a year in Paris and London doing research, **Rebecca Prime** returned to the East Coast. She has lived in Washington, D.C., for the last five years with her husband, David, and their sons, Dominic (6) and Paul (18 months). Rebecca writes that teaching and parenthood have kept her busy, so she is delighted to have finished her first book, *Hollywood Exiles in Europe: the Blacklist and Cold War Film Culture*, which was published in January. It chronicles the experiences of the blacklisted American filmmakers who sought refuge in Europe in the 1950s and 1960s. Rebecca is now looking for another book project that will provide an excuse to return to Paris. In D.C. she regularly sees **Nicole Miller,** who recently relocated there from Boston, and **Susannah Gopalan** (née Vance), who was recently elected partner at Feldesman Tucker Leifer Fidell, a law firm where she practices in the area of health care.

Natasha Kohne lives in Abu Dhabi with her husband and children, Siena (5) and Arthur (1). Natasha runs (and in fact opened) the Abu Dhabi office of the global law firm Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld. She has been living in Abu Dhabi for six years and primarily advises government entities in the Gulf Corporation Council region on their investments and activities worldwide as well as multinational companies doing business in the GCC.

Sayan Bhattacharyya '04L was recently named a partner in the Financial Restructuring Group of the law firm Stroock & Stroock & Lavan. Sayan focuses on corporate and financial restructuring and regularly represents ad hoc

committees of bondholders and bank lenders, official committees of unsecured creditors, debtors, individual creditors, acquirers, DIP lenders, equity holders, indenture trustees and bank agents in bankruptcy proceedings, out-of-court restructurings and default scenarios. He represents hedge funds, private equity funds, banks and large institutional investors in in-court and out-of-court restructuring scenarios. He also advises these clients on the development and implementation of distressed investment strategies.

Alas, that is all I have for you. Come out of hibernation, everyone. The weather has warmed up and I want to hear from you! I urge you to send in more notes; I know you all have a lot to say! You can write to either address at the top of the column or submit via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

"A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."

— Winston Churchill

97

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CC '97 has been extraordinarily prolific of late! This column is almost entirely devoted to recently published books by our talented classmates.

Danielle Paige has a new young-adult series coming out. Its first book, released April 1, is *Dorothy Must Die*; it reimagines the fantasy landscape we're all familiar with, with another girl from Kansas landing in Oz, joining a revolutionary order of formerly wicked witches and having to kill an evil Dorothy. It's also been optioned by The CW and producer/screenwriter Tim Kring (*Heroes*) for a possible television adaptation.

Kate Kelly lives in Brooklyn and is a television reporter for CNBC. She is married and a proud mom of three: stepdaughter, Laney (15); son, Zachary (4); and daughter, Josephine (2½). Kate is excited about the publication of her second book, *The Secret Club That Runs the World: Inside the Fraternity of Commodity Traders*, on June 3. She writes, "It's a look inside the opaque world of commodity trading — the buying and selling of contracts tied to future prices of oil, gas, grains, metals and other raw materials we all use. The book was the outcome of a three-year investigation and lots of travel, and I'm excited to finally get it onto bookshelves (or to e-readers!)."

Michelle Caswell's new book, *Archiving the Unspeakable: Silence, Memory, and the Photographic Record in Cambodia*, was published on April 1. It details the reign of the Khmer Rouge through analysis of photographic history.

Nicholas Kulish and **Souad Mekhennet**'s new book, *The Eternal Nazi: From Mauthausen to Cairo, the Relentless Pursuit of SS Doctor Aribert Heim*, came out March 25. It details the story of Dr. Aribert Heim, who worked in the Mauthausen-Gusen concentration camp for a few months in 1941. Known to inmates as "Dr. Death," in the chaos of the postwar period Heim was able to slip away from his dark past and establish himself as a reputable doctor and family man in Baden-Baden, Germany. As late as 2009, the mystery of Heim's disappearance remained unsolved. The book reveals for the first time how Heim evaded capture — living in a working-class neighborhood of Cairo, praying in Arabic, beloved by an adopted Muslim family — while inspiring a manhunt that outlived him (he died in 1992) by many years.

Matt Wang's game company, To Be Continued, was acquired in 2012 by one of its operating partners, 5th Planet Games, for which Matt now is senior adviser. Matt is also the deputy COO of Evercore, a leading independent investment bank. He married Elizabeth Battista last June.

I hope everyone has a terrific summer. I'll look forward to hearing about it, along with all your other news, for next time. You can write me at either address at the top of the column or via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

98

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Happy summer, Class of 1998. Can you believe it has been nearly 20 years since we started our first year at the College? Consider this the perfect time to send in your updates. You can write me at either address at the top of the column, or submit via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Meena Merchant has a growing family. She writes, "My husband, Mitch Shepherd, and I had our second son, Mohan Merchant Shepherd, on January 23 at home. Mizan (4½) is loving life with a little brother. I recently left my stationery company to be a full-time mom and a personal coach/guide, which I find to be wonderfully rewarding.

"Mitch is a full-time freelancer doing video production and is launching a video production company (AXOXIX) that will involve collaborating with many talented local people."

Congratulations, Meena, Mitch, Mizan and baby Mohan!

Congratulations are also in order for **Abby Lublin.** According to pal **Adina Brooks** (née Berrios), Abby had a son last summer. Her family lives in Troy, N.Y.

That's it for this edition. If you're on Facebook, please join our Columbia College Class of '98 Group.

99

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Greetings, Class of '99. I hope this update finds you well. This submission is a bit tricky, as I'm writing a few months before our reunion yet you will be reading it after. The full report on the weekend will appear in the next issue, though it appears by all accounts we'll have had a solid turnout.

Life has been busy lately for reasons I can tell you more about in the Fall issue. That being said, it's time for me to pass the baton to **Adrienne Carter** (adieliz@gmail.com) and **Jenna Johnson** (jenna johnson@gmail.com), who are taking over as joint correspondents. They'll introduce themselves in the fall, but in the meantime you can contact them now with your news. Thanks to everyone for making this such a terrific run!

REUNION WEEKEND
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Emily Martin Kurzweil has been busy with her twins, Edie and Sammy (who turned 1 last April), and their older sister, Eva. Emily moved to Portland, Ore., several years ago with her husband, Grady Jurrens, to be closer to his family.

Nathaniel Farrell wrote in with some great news: His first book of poems, *Newcomer*, comes out this summer! You can check out an excerpt in *The Brooklyn Rail:* brooklynrail.org/2014/04/poetry/eight-from-newcomer.

Nathaniel lives in St. Louis with his wife, teaches at Washington University and volunteers at a local radio station, 88.1 KDHX.

Meanwhile, **Matthew Matlack** has lived in Tulsa since 2002. He works in the technology industry and has been with Brocade for the past seven years. His datacenter technology is being used for the infrastructure for the nation's first community supercomputer, Tandy Supercomputing Center, which provides access to academic, corporate and government entities needing high-performance computational capabilities.

Congratulations to **Eric Goldberg,** who recently joined the law firm of Littleton Joyce Ughetta Park & Kelly as a partner in its NYC office. The firm is a litigation boutique with five offices around the country focusing on complex commercial litigation with an emphasis on products liability defense. Eric lives in Edison, N.J., with his wife, Karen '01, and their daughters, Katie, Emma and Gracie.

Kimberly Warren (née Fisher) emailed an update on the last five years. She got married in 2010 with 12 Columbia '00 classmates in attendance, gave birth to a son last summer and, she says, was crazy enough to only take eight days of maternity leave. She is the executive director of sales at an analytics firm and loves it. Kim is a board member of the Women in Technology Foundation, lives in Manhattan and runs every day.

01

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I hope everyone's summer is off to a great start!

In January I got to spend an afternoon of fun in the sun with an amazing group of alumni and their families, as we had our very own mini-reunion in the desert city of Rancho Mirage, Calif. (near Palm Springs). Thanks to **Nancy Michaelis** (née Perla) for hosting us, and to **Susan Wilsey** (née Pereira), **Annie Marquit** (née Lainer), **Dina Epstein, Joyce Chou** and Jamie Rubin '01 Barnard for joining. It was so much fun to catch up and meet the next generation of alumni!

Cambria Matlow recently launched a successful Kickstarter campaign for her film project *The Woodsriders*. It's "a meditative portrait of Mount Hood's nature and culture, as seen through the eyes of two female snowboarders."

I personally followed the campaign with great interest on Facebook and enjoyed seeing all the support

from the '01 community. **Claire Weingarten** will be an associate producer.

Best of luck with the film, Cambria!

Eliel Flores left the United States for Zurich at the end of January to begin a six-month assignment practicing international law.

Marc Dunkelman shared two exciting updates: He and his wife, Kathryn, welcomed their second daughter, Helen Levine Dunkelman, on February 9 at Women & Infants Hospital of Rhode Island, in Providence. Helen weighed in at 7 lbs., 10 oz. She joins sis Emilia.

Congratulations, Marc and Kathryn!

Marc also shares: "I've spent many nights and weekends in the last decade toiling over a book about how community has changed in America and why that transformation explains so many of our challenges today. It's a joy and a relief to announce that the final product, *The Vanishing Neighbor: The Transformation of American Community*, is slated to hit stores on July 28."

Congratulations, Marc!

Ariel Neuman reported, "My wife, Eszter, and I welcomed our son, Zev, into the world in August. He's doing great. Also, after almost seven years at the U.S. Attorney's Office, I joined Bird Marella, a litigation boutique in Los Angeles that specializes in white-collar criminal defense and complex civil litigation."

Congratulations, Ariel and Eszter!

Avery Kastin and Vanessa Isen were married in Aspen on January 18. Avery writes, "Vanessa's family lives in Santa Monica, Calif., while mine lives in Atlanta, so we decided to make our wedding inconvenient for both families by having a destination wedding in Colorado. Aspen holds special significance for us, as that's where we met, and we have shared a lot of wonderful memories there since that first trip. We both love to ski — Vanessa is a former professional snowboarder — so the bonus of getting to be on the slopes during our wedding week was icing on the cake.

"When we're not on the slopes, Vanessa and I split our time between Santa Monica and Atlanta. She is a professional chef and restaurant consultant, and I am a protein commodities broker and trader."

My Furnald and Carman pal, **Ethan Perlstein**, shared an exciting report (after I prompted him about all the buzz I was hearing about his business). He writes, "Things are super well! Perlstein Lab, my mission-driven biotech startup based in San Francisco and focused on orphan/rare disease drug discovery, is a go."

Ethan is busy gathering investors and also recently participated in a panel on indie science at SXSW.

Speaking of SXSW, the horror film *Home*, with a score composed by **Ronen Landa**, premiered there. According to thecredits.org, "*Home* is a feverish satanic scare-fest that's structured more like a thoughtful character study than a typical horror film. Throughout, Landa's score is oddly affecting and always unsettling."

Eunice Rho, the advocacy and policy counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union, was recently quoted in *The New York Times* regarding a bill in Kansas that would have allowed businesses to refuse services to gays. She said, "As LGBT people gain greater equality under the law, the opponents are arguing, because of their religious beliefs, they should be given special authorization."

Way to go, Eunice!

Ronen Landa '01 composed the "oddly affecting and always unsettling" score for the horror film *Home*, which premiered at SXSW this past spring.

02

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This time around, there seems to be a baby boom to report. Congrats to all the new Columbia parents! In addition, there are some exciting work updates. Please keep updates (of any nature!) coming to soniah57@gmail.com. You also can send a note through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Jacqueline Karp and David Karp '99 are excited to announce the arrival of their son, Joel Franklin, who was born on November 26.

Ethan Farbman and Natalie Fung '02 Barnard welcomed their daughter, Isabelle Tatum Farbman, into the world on December 19 at 10:30 a.m. Hong Kong time. Mother and daughter are doing great.

Richard Mammana and Mary Christian Winthrop Mammana '04 (née Brownrigg) welcomed their second daughter, Elisabeth Hannah Howell, on January 4 in New Haven, Conn.

Emily Bruskin Yarbrough and Chad Yarbrough welcomed their daughter, Zoe Anna Yarbrough, on April 19, 2013, in New York City.

Lenny Braman and his wife, Anne Green (director of academic counseling and judicial programming at the Law School), joyfully announce the birth of their first child, Gwendolyn May, on October 27, 2013. Lenny is senior counsel in the affirmative litigation division of the New York City Law Department.

Tze-Ngo Chun and his wife, Cara McKenney, welcomed their second child, Theodora Seabright, on December 19. Chun's new film, *Cold Comes the Night*, which he wrote and directed, stars Bryan Cranston and Alice Eve and was released theatrically in January. It is now available on DVD.

Ian R. Rapoport writes, "Last year (2013) was a wild and awesome year for my wife, Leah, and me. Most importantly, we welcomed Max Basinger into the world on July 19, all 5 lbs., 4 oz. of him. An exciting bundle of cuteness. I was really happy that **Adam Schwartz, Mike Kim** and **Matt Waldman** got to meet him during Thanksgiving break. As for work, I was moved into the role of 'National Insider' on the NFL Network, acting as our main news reporter on *NFL GameDay Morning, Thursday Night Football* and our other shows."

03

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The summer has brought some much-needed warmth to much of the country and I hope this issue's Class Notes will warm your hearts, as there is a ton of exciting news and announcements. Two classmates have joined the faculties of American universities, one published his first book, three welcomed children, three are in senior positions at start-ups and one recently moved to a senior leadership position with a national publication.

Evan Mayo-Wilson writes, "I moved to Baltimore in February to join the faculty at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. I'd love to reconnect with Columbia folks in the Baltimore-Washington, D.C., area."

Yvette Siegert teaches comparative literature and translation at CUNY Baruch, but still puts in long hours at Butler Library, where she is translating the collected works of poet Alejandra Pizarnik for publisher New Directions and writing a book about bootlegging in New York.

David Burr Gerrard's first novel, *Short Century*, was published in March. The book launch, at The Oracle Club in Long Island City, was attended by many alumni, including **Bec Bloom, Ben Casselman, Julia Fuma, Alexa Winnik, Yvette Siegert**, Jessica Feldman '01 and William Burr Gerrard '05.

Anne Melzer writes, "Next year I'll complete my master's of epidemiology at the University of Washington as part of my pulmonary and critical care fellowship. My husband and I recently welcomed our first child, a son."

Beril Tari Becker and her partner, Darren Becker, "had our first baby on January 18. Jonathan was born six weeks early and weighed 5 lbs. He is growing quickly and showering us with smiles."

Justin Sellman has accepted a full-time position with a luxury leather company, Ghurka, as its global director of sales and merchandising.

Samuel Polk writes, "My wife, Kirsten, and I welcomed our first child on April 2. Eveline Thompson Polk was 5 lbs., 14 oz., and couldn't be more beautiful."

Darrell Silver writes, "The education company I cofounded last year, Thinkful, has been growing: We've taught more than 1,000 adults in engineering with our network of more than 100 mentors around the country. Our team in NYC is now 14 strong, and we're pretty excited about what's going to happen in the rest of 2014!"

Adam Kushner left his job as editor of the magazine *National Journal* to join *The Washington Post*, where he is hiring a staff and launching a new digital magazine.

04

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Hello CC '04! I hope all is great with you. This will be a truncated column, as the larger report on our reunion will be featured in the next issue. It was great to see those of you who made it back to campus! Classmates who didn't make it, you were definitely missed.

Congratulations to **Margarita O'Donnell** and her husband, Gareth Eckmann '02, '04E, who welcomed their daughter, Alessandra Mary-Jeanne, on March 21.

Alessa was born in Washington, D.C., where Maggie and Gareth have lived since moving from New York two years ago.

During a recent high school alumni event, I spent time with Joel Lorden '50, who regaled me with fascinating stories of his time at Columbia. In addition to learning about the $300/semester tuition, the maid service that cleaned the dorm rooms and the ability to use the tunnels on snowy days (all things I wish we could have experienced), we debated the pros and cons of JJ's Place versus the Lions Den. The Lions Den had the advantage because it was a pub, but JJ's put up a strong showing with its late-night chicken fingers and mozzarella sticks. Also, it turns out the CC curriculum hasn't changed all that much since the late 1940s.

Keep sending those updates! Feel free to email me at aeg90@columbia.edu or get in touch via CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 28–31, 2015

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05

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Happy summer, Class of 2005! As one of our classmates points out later in the column, in one year's time we'll be at our 10th reunion. Whoa! Until then, here's the latest:

Eun Young Choi writes, "In May I graduated with a Ph.D. in neuroscience from Harvard. I'm a post-doctoral fellow at Rochester, having defended last July."

John Zaro announces, "My wife, Natalie Zaro (née Leggio) '04 Barnard and I welcomed our first child into the world on April 10. Adrian Paul was born at 9:38 p.m. at NYU Langone on First Avenue. We reside in downtown NYC."

Joanna Dee Das '11 GSAS says, "I completed my Ph.D. in history at Columbia [three years ago] and will start a postdoctoral fellowship in dance studies this fall at Stanford."

Bridget Geibel Stefanski writes, "I'm finishing my sixth year of teaching at Sacred Heart Prep in Atherton, Calif., where my son, Benjamin (4), recently finished his first year of preschool. This summer we are taking a six-week trip to Poland to visit friends and family on my husband's side, and we're really looking forward to a trip to Krakow. I'm also looking forward to our 10-year reunion next summer — can't believe we're almost there!"



Faraaz Ahme '05E and Kathryn Struthers '05 were married in November in New York City. Left to right: Josh Feldman '05, Brandon Woolf '05, Lee Greenwood '05, Nick Renart '05, the groom, the bride, Megan Bailey '05 Barnard, Lizzy Murakami '05, and Nancy Fairchild '05E (née Lin) and her husband, Jeff Fairchild '05E.
PHOTO: HECHLER PHOTOGRAPHERS

Caryn (Waterson) Gehrke announces, "My husband, Martin Gehrke '06E, and I welcomed our daughter, Charlotte Emma, on January 5. Her older brothers, Martin and Levi, also adore her."

Jason Frazer writes, "I'm a TV reporter at Channel 3 Eyewitness News in Hartford, Conn. It's the CBS affiliate."

Steve Esses writes, "I am a resident physician in the department of radiology at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York. I am married to Daniella Lichtman-Esses '05 Barnard, '09L, who is an attorney at Cravath, Swaine & Moore. We have three children: Joey, Teddy and Sheryl."

Darren Bolton reports, "Last year was huge for me. I got back into the golf industry and am working toward earning my Class A from the PGA of America. In April I moved to Princeton, where I accepted a job as an assistant golf professional at the Springdale Golf Club. I am writing this note from Cave Creek, Ariz., where I spent winter as assistant pro at the Mirabel Golf Club, with plans to return to Springdale in May. I also began a relationship this past summer with an awesome girl named Jessica. She is so hot. And intelligent! You guys would be jealous.

"In September I applied for a one-day license from the state of Massachusetts to marry my father and Wei Tao. She's Chinese, and she makes these awesome dumplings. She's like a mom to me. (I still have my real mom, too — ha!) Anyway I was granted the license and performed the ceremony like a pro; my boss at Springdale calls me 'Reverend' now. Could be my missed calling? …

"So as you may have guessed, my parents got divorced. Happened about five years ago. They told me it was all my fault. Anyway, it has been worked out in therapy, and life is good. I am thankful to be back doing what I really love and feel so lucky to have a great girl like Jessica in my life. Keep it on the short grass!"

Luis Saucedo writes, "I've been at the White House National Economic Council working on economic development issues on Indian reservations for several months."

Daniella Ross says, "I graduated from MSU College of Veterinary Medicine in May and am going on to a small-animal rotating internship at Louisiana State University Veterinary Teaching Hospital."

Brendon Jeremi Jobs writes from Philadelphia: "Work has been busy. Summer break will be a needed time for reflection. I teach history at the Girard Academic Music Program after making the difficult decision to leave Philadelphia High School for Girls. My kids have been amazing and inspiring but my work as an advocate for public education in the midst of Philly's crisis has also heated up. With a coalition of teacher leaders, I'm organizing a 'Citywide Teacher Convening' focused on empowering teachers to leverage teacher leadership in the fight for public education. I also have been busy with invitations to present and speak on panels. Recently, I spoke at a Bread & Roses Teach-In and at the social justice meeting of April's American Educational Research Association Conference, and I presented 'Preparing "Thinkers" for the Unseen & Uncertain Future' at ReTHINK Philly Ed Tech as a part of Philly Tech Week. I'm proud also to be facilitating a citywide teacher meet-up group called Black Music as Rebellion. In May, a team of participants will present at Teacher Action Group's fifth annual Education for Liberation Conference at the Folk Arts Cultural Treasures Charter School in Philadelphia."

Jennifer Handorf has released her third feature film as producer; it's called *The Borderlands*. Also, she recently joined the United Kingdom's Metrodome Distribution as its head of production.

In November, **Kathryn Struthers** married **Faraaz Ahmed '05E** in New York City. Alumni in attendance were Megan Bailey '05 Barnard, **Nancy Fairchild '05E** (née Lin) and her husband, **Jeff Fairchild '05E; Josh Feldman; Lee Greenwood; Lizzy Murakami; Nick Renart;** and **Brandon Woolf,** who officiated the ceremony. Kathryn is pursuing a Ph.D. in urban education policy at the University



Jonny Roszak '05 and Suzanne Hopcroft '07 were married on March 23 by the La Fortuna waterfall in Arenal, Costa Rica. Top row, left to right: Ben Goldstein '05, Kate Lieberman '08, Kori Estrada '07, Myriah Pahl, the groom, the bride, Brandon Arbiter '06E (who officiated), Lenora Babb '07, Matt Harding, Kristin Adele Okoli, Amanda Pizur, David Whittemore '06 and John Plimpton; and bottom row, left to right: Jason Merritt, John Estrada '07E, Shannon Lichtman and Jason Lichtman '06E.

PHOTO: JOHN ESTRADA '07E

of Southern California, and Faraaz is VP of finance and operations at PayPerks, a FinTech start-up. The couple resides in New York.

Kunal Gupta opened Babycastles Gallery, an exhibition space for independent video games, at 137 W. 14th St. in Manhattan, and Silent Barn, a participatory multidisciplinary art, performance and residency program in Brooklyn.

Molly Breiner lives in NYC with her husband and 4-month-old son, Robby. She recently visited with **Chris Whiting '05E** and **Jana Whiting,** who live in London.

Alexandra "Ali" Hartman and **Andrew Tolve** welcomed a new lion to their pride in October with the birth of their son, Austen Alexander. They say his arrival has turned their world upside down in the most unexpected and wonderful ways.

Bartek Ringwelski is head of innovation at Lending Club, a peer-to-peer lending leader expected to IPO this year.

Aoife Keane launched the Irish Whiskey Association, a trade body of 18 founding companies involved in distilling and selling Irish whiskey. In her role heading up the association in Dublin, Aoife is tasked with international protection and promotion of the Irish whiskey category, which has grown by 220 percent in the last 10 years and is the fastest growing premium spirit. She encourages all Columbians to taste the Irish tipple and see how it compares to its American and Scottish counterparts!

In his role at Jazz at Lincoln Center, **Seton Hawkins** produced a two-week educational tour in the United States featuring Uhadi: All-Stars of Johannesburg Jazz. The ensemble comprised six of South Africa's top jazz musicians, who held a weekend residency at Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola in NYC and conducted workshops and family performances throughout the Northeast in celebration of 20 years of democracy in South Africa.

Stephen Distinti has been teaching Latin and ancient Greek in the NYC area for seven years; he currently teaches at Fordham Prep in the Bronx. His first book is being published this summer; it's a two-volume series of notebooks designed to help students taking AP Latin organize their work and improve their vocabulary and translation skills.

Eileen Lee, COO of Venture for America, is excited to welcome VFA's third fellowship class this summer. You can meet the newest fellows at ventureforamerica.org/2014fellows. VFA is a nonprofit that recruits and trains top college graduates to work at startups and early-stage growth companies in Detroit, New Orleans, Baltimore, Providence and other cities around the United States. The goals are to help fuel job growth and train the next generation of entrepreneurs. You can learn more and learn how to get involved at ventureforamerica.org.

06

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I hope this column finds you well and hope you have plans to take some much-deserved time off during these summer months.

Our very own **Justin Ifill** was presented this year's Gerald Sherwin '55 Young Alumni Service Award at the Young Alumni Fund Spring Benefit on April 25. Justin says, "I am very proud of our College and how the connections to Columbia have grown stronger over the years for many more alumni than ever before." [Editor's note: See "Around the Quads."]

He continues, "In March, I had the pleasure of hosting the birthday parties of **Marques Torbert** and **Armond Adams.** The annual 'Q&A' bashes have been great fun over the years and have become small reunions for our class. I also hosted **Uzo Ometu** as he threw his first birthday party as an adult. Good times all around. Only two more years until reunion — can't wait!"

Nick Cain writes, "John Jay 14 neighbors **Brendan Shanahan, Taylor Marcus, Virginia Zimpel** and **Nick Cain** have reunited in Berkeley, Calif., where all four are students at the Haas School of Business. Like life on John Jay 14, business school in Berkeley involves nice views and a heightened radar for free food. Sadly, it does not involve ball sports."

Marisa Harary and **Adam Zucker** celebrated the first birthday of their daughter, Sage Rafaela Zucker, on February 28 in Brooklyn. Many friends were on hand including **Jacob Appel, Zachary Kleinhandler, Adam Rozencwajg, Antonio Cabrera '06E,** Ezra Surowicz '07, **Kristin Soong, Kelsey Osgood, Monica Sethi, Sam Shapiro,** Phillip Rapoport '05, Michael Goldberg '05, Larry Manis '05, Amalia Goldvaser '05, Michael Glick '04 and Frieda Laulicht '08E. Among the family in attendance were Arielle Siboni '09 Barnard, Jeremy Banon '13 and Alvin Zucker '44E.

Varun Munjal does stock research and lives in Framingham, Mass.

As reported by *The New York Times,* **Michael C. Brown Jr.,** founder and general partner of Bowery Capital, an early-stage venture capital firm, recently married Elizabeth B. Wilson, CEO of Viyet, an online consignment service for furniture.

Congratulations, Michael!

Remember, your classmates want to hear from you! You can write me at either address at the top of the column or via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

07

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I hope this edition of Class Notes finds everyone well! Here are some exciting updates.

Kylie Davis started a new job at Broadhaven Capital Partners working on growth private equity and advisory in the financial-technology space. **Max Bauer** also started a new job as a labor lawyer in Boston. Congratulations!

Olivia Roszkowski is a chef instructor at the Natural Gourmet Institute and a private chef in New York City. Check out her blog, oli viathechef.com, for recipes, classes and events.

Leni Babb writes, "I passed the Utah State Bar Exam and started a

Nikkie Zanevsky '07 Finds Outlet for Creativity in Parkour

By Elena Hecht '09 Barnard

The sun had already set on a chilly December evening when **Nikkie Zanevsky '07,** in a long-sleeved shirt and leggings, sprinted toward a jungle gym in Manhattan's Tompkins Square Park. She confidently walked up the rungs of the jungle gym — no hands needed — and then across the top of the monkey bars, silent and agile as a cat, before flipping over the edge and landing quietly on the ground.

To watch Zanevsky is to watch what seems almost supernatural, her movements like stunts out of *The Matrix.* But for Zanevsky this is old hat. This way of moving through the world as though it is an obstacle course to be mastered is her passion, otherwise known as parkour, a practice Zanevsky describes as "getting from point A to point B as creatively as possible using only your environment and your body."

Zanevsky, who majored in comparative literature, discovered parkour through a video sent to her by a friend during her senior year. "It captivated me," she says. "And I thought, 'This — I am meant to be doing this.'" Soon after, Zanevsky began commuting to Williamsburg, Brooklyn, once a week for a parkour class. She subsequently connected with the parkour community through online forums and began joining other devotees for informal training sessions. By the summer after graduation, Zanevsky was training three times a week.

Though her love for parkour was steadfast, she put it to the side in fall 2007 as she began a grueling schedule as a business analyst at McKinsey & Company — a turn that lasted only six months. "I knew I wanted to be more involved in the parkour community, so working all day [and] all night I couldn't really dedicate myself to that," she says.

While Zanevsky is now a senior product marketing manager for Northwest Evaluation Association — what she calls her "regular job in the real world" — her dream has become a reality through The Movement Creative, an organization she began with friends, fellow traceurs (parkour practitioners) and training partners Jesse Danger and Caitlin Pontrella. The organization is a collective of instructors whose mission is to have a positive impact on the lives of children and adults by sharing parkour.

Officially founded in January 2013, The Movement Creative grew out of an informal free workshop that Zanevsky and Danger began hosting several years ago. "Eventually it grew, kind of snowballed, and then he [Danger] and I would take turns teaching these sessions," says Zanevsky.

Today The Movement Creative has brought parkour to six schools throughout New York City and is in discussion with nine more for the coming academic year. It has also run a one-week Parkour and Game Design Summer Camp through a partnership with Quest to Learn, a Chelsea school founded on the ideals of game-like learning, and the Institute of Play.

The impetus for starting The Movement Creative stemmed from an approach to parkour that is, as Zanevsky says, "about being open to all, so, egalitarian, accessible and learning through play." In keeping with this outlook, the organization uses modified children's games like tag and "The Floor is Lava" to teach and practice parkour techniques. The instructors have also shared parkour and their training expertise for free at festivals such as the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation's Summer Streets and Winter Jam.



Nikkie Zanevsky '07 practices "the underbar."
PHOTO: ANDY OUTIS

While parkour's flashy moves might be the most visible elements of the practice, Zanevsky describes parkour as "like doodling kinesthetically," and is most drawn to its creative elements. "I think that parkour is all about saying, 'Never build what's in the picture on the [Lego] box,'" says Zanevsky. "Everybody makes their own thing with the same building blocks."

General awareness of parkour has grown thanks to increased visibility in media such as movies and music videos — and, of course, thanks to practitioners themselves. "On so many occasions I've watched curious children, hesitant adults and hurried passersby all stop what they are doing to learn a new movement from her [Zanevsky]," says Danger.

In December, The Movement Creative took part in TEDx-Brooklyn, held at the Brooklyn Bowl, demonstrating parkour's potential as an accessible form of exercise by showcasing moves in both their basic and more advanced forms — a presentation that ties to the organization's concept that parkour is for everyone.

Zanevsky emphasizes that parkour is also for everywhere, though the environment endemic to an urban landscape makes it easy to see why parkour is well suited to a city like New York. She references her Columbia graduation, and how free she felt when she used parkour to jump over a physical barrier that was preventing her classmates from moving. "We want to give that to other people," says Zanevsky. "That sense of freedom and that feeling that living in an urban environment, it doesn't have to feel depressing or like you're fenced in, but you can treat these constraints as an outlet for your creativity."

To watch a video of Zanevsky doing parkour, go to Web Extras at college.columbia.edu/cct.

Elena Hecht '09 Barnard, *a former editorial assistant for* Columbia College Today, *is a writer and dancer based in New York City. Her work has also appeared in* Dance Magazine.

one-year clerkship with the Hon. Justice Ronald Nehring of the Utah Supreme Court. I also had a blast celebrating **Suzanne Hopcroft**'s upcoming marriage to Jonny Roszak '05 with **Kori Estrada** (née Gatta) at Suzanne's bachelorette party in Austin.

Andy Wolf launched the company ROIKOI. As TechCrunch describes it, "At its core, it is a leaderboard that anonymously rates people you know based on one single criterion: 'Would I hire this person at a job and work with them?'" Learn more at roikoi.com.

Junhyung (Janet) Rho writes, "It's my fourth year working at a bank in South Korea. If there is anybody from the Class of 2007 in Korea now, please email me. Can't wait to share memories from Columbia!" Her address is janet_rjh@hotmail.com.

It's so nice to see our classmates up to such exciting things. Thanks as always for all of the updates. Remember, you can reach me at either address at the top of the column or through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

08

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Dalinez Martinez-Lanzo has a fantastic update: "On December 14, right between my birthday (December 6) and Christmas, I got the best present ever. I gave birth to a little girl, Lea Ines Lanzo. She's adorable and I'm already prepping her to be a Lion."

Jon Cioschi is wrapping up his time at Harvard Law, where he misses Columbia every day. For the foreseeable future he'll be in Philadelphia, his hometown, where he is excited to start work in September as an assistant public defender at the Defender Association of Philadelphia. He says, "Come visit anytime! And also, move to Philly! It's a wonderful town, and a hell of a lot more affordable than NYC."

This summer, **Morgan Hoke**, who is in graduate school at Northwestern, will travel to Peru to begin her year-long dissertation research in biocultural anthropology. Her research is supported by a Fulbright Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship.

Rachel Levenson was accepted to the pre-doctoral internship program in medical psychology and psychiatric consultation liaison services at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami for the 2014–15 training year.

Farah Mohammed is president of the Sydney chapter of the Columbia Association of Australia. A lawyer, she was admitted in February to the Australian bar.

Chenni Xu has moved from her job as senior consultant at Emerging Asia in Shanghai to work at Hill & Knowlton Strategies' Beijing office in a government and public affairs role. She welcomes visitors in Beijing to contact her at chenni.xu@gmail.com.

Calvin Sun has taken his travel service, The Monsoon Diaries, to the next level: Last December he led an expedition of 19 monsooners from 11 countries on a budget trip to the great white continent of Antarctica. Right afterward, he headed to Pakistan to choreograph a wedding.

By the time you read this, Calvin will have graduated from SUNY Downstate Medical Center. The May ceremony took place at Carnegie Hall, and as class president he delivered the welcoming address. Calvin has been invited to speak at 12 campuses in more than 10 states on various civil rights issues and other contemporary topics related to sex, mental health and youth engagement in activism. Calvin's travel plans include taking fellow monsooners to places such as Cuba, Bolivia, Turkmenistan, Somalia, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Iraq. If you're interested in going, let him know at cds2107@caa.columbia.edu!

As always, I encourage you to share your news. You can reach me at either address at the top of the column or through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

09

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It turns out that the news about **Jenny Lam** in the Spring 2014 issue of Class Notes was based on a surprisingly detailed automated out-of-office reply, which came in response to my request for updates. Other than perfecting the art of deceivingly non-robotic-sounding away messages, Jenny reports that she recently was visited by partner-in-crime **Stephanie Lindquist** (who has been busy co-founding masterdabblers.com). In Chicago, they attended the wedding of **Christopher Schell**, their first friend to get married. Adulthood! Also, by the time this column publishes, Jenny will have returned from her annual trip to Hong Kong, where she's invited to attend Art Basel as a VIP and where she stocks up on cheap plastic watches.

Eliav Bitan graduated from UVA's Darden School of Business this spring. In June, he will start work in Minneapolis as an associate marketing manager in Land O'Lakes' agricultural products division, WinField Solutions. He loved his internship there, which included a thorough pricing analysis and an epic trip to Dave & Buster's. Any classmates in Minneapolis are more than welcome to get in touch, he says.

Morgan Hoke '08, who is in graduate school at Northwestern, travels to Peru this summer to begin her dissertation research in biocultural anthropology.

And now a reminder to … write me! And actually, it's not just me you're writing to — Class Notes are a great way to keep in touch with all classmates in one fell swoop. You can write to either address at the top of the column or send a note through *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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10

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From Morocco to Brooklyn to San Francisco, our class certainly knows how to stay busy. Let's dive right in.

Alexandra Stein writes, "I live in Morocco, where I help Moroccan corporations develop social and environmental responsibility projects and strategies. Some of the projects include building wells in villages without clean running water and literacy training for hundreds of women through private financing. When I am no longer surprised to see camels on the way to work, I know it is time for a visit to New York."

Millie Li is getting married on the Brooklyn Bridge pedestrian walkway this June to her longtime partner, David Dillon, director of channel sales at Eden Technologies. She is the administrative director and marketing manager for MacArthur fellow Elizabeth Streb and the STREB Extreme Action Co., recently popularized by the documentary *Born to Fly*, which premiered at the SXSW festival in March. Four of her eight bridesmaids are alumni: **Elizabeth Bruce**, Heather Oh '09, Rachel Lindsay '09 and Ashley James '09.

Cliff Massey has some big news: "Parting ways with Columbia was particularly hard for me after graduation, so as many of you know, I decided to stick around for a bit as staff. But after four extra years in Morningside Heights, I'm finally leaving. This summer, I'm moving to Los Angeles to attend USC for an M.P.A. program. Columbians in Los Angeles: You'll have to show me how to get around without the subway!"

Veronica Couzo is happy to announce her graduation from Notre Dame Law. Next, she will be clerking for Judge Julia Smith Gibbons of the 6th Circuit in Memphis. After clerking, Veronica will be an associate at Jones Day in Chicago. She recently got engaged and is excited to plan her wedding while eating lots of southern barbecue.

Laura Z. Weldon writes, "I finished my post-bac, pre-med program at Louisville in May and will spend the next year teaching Pilates and expanding my health coaching practice. I am applying to enter naturopathic med school (Bastyr University in Seattle) in fall 2015. I miss New York and my many dispersed Columbia friends but am excited for everything to come!"

Justina Kaminskaite Dillon and her husband, J. Matthew Dillon, live in Cobble Hill, Brooklyn, and on March 7 welcomed their first child, Azuolas Benedict. Justina is in the second year of a Ph.D. program in clinical psychology at the G.F. Derner Institute of Advanced Psychological Studies at Adelphi.

The Crimson and Cambridge, Mass., are seeing a strong infusion of CC '10 Blue. **Mabo Imoisili**, **Katie Omstead**, **Michael Szeto** and **Sue Yang** are first-year M.B.A. students at Harvard Business School while **Edward Kim '10E**, **Otto Magdanz** and **Martina Hansen** are graduating second-year M.B.A.s. Meanwhile, on the other side of the river, **Isabel Broer**, **Valerie Sapozhnikova** and **David Salant** are taking Harvard Law's Class of 2016 by storm.

Lucas Momo writes, "During the last few months I've been involved in an interesting and exciting new development: I left my position at

[the restaurant] Sirio to join my new partners in opening a restaurant, Huertas, at 107 1st Ave., between 6th and 7th Streets, in the East Village. Huertas is a Basque-inspired Spanish restaurant and we offer a lively casual bar area with passed *pintxos* and a small dining room with a regularly changing four-course *menú del día*.

"We opened at the beginning of April. Officially, I will act as partner and co-general manager but my daily responsibilities will focus on being the consummate host and ensuring that all of our guests have a fun and memorable time (not so bad for what's considered 'work')."

"I'm thrilled about this opportunity because of its potential for success and am eager for all of you to visit and share in the fun. Check us out at huertasnyc.com. Looking forward to seeing you all!"

Last but not least, here is our regular installment from **Chris Yim**: "In February, I was walking to dinner in a dicey part of San Francisco when I was bitten by what I thought was a snake. However, it was not a snake. A stranger had taken a syringe to my shoulder. Essentially, I was stabbed. The needle penetrated my military jacket and went into my flesh. I flipped out, slapped the needle out and ran away. I was a nervous wreck for a number of days before I could finally see a doctor. The last time I had seen a doctor was on Thanksgiving Day, when I dislocated my shoulder wrestling my little brother (true story!). I went to the ER, and they charged me nearly a grand for 1.5 hours of their service/time. This experience made me incredibly wary of hospitals and medicine. However, I had to go to get peace of mind. They ran the blood test, and it came out negative for any diseases or conditions.

"Is anyone else struggling with how to embrace faith in their life as a 20-something individual, living in an urban area where secularity is exalted and piety thought of as lame? In the midst of work, climbing that endless ladder, maintaining and developing relationships, staying healthy and having fun, when do we actually have the opportunity to evaluate some of the tougher questions? I'm grateful for many of the things that I have and am incredibly blessed but can't help feeling like I want to identify with something more than what's listed on my LinkedIn and Facebook pages. I'm still working on how to articulate this itch. Come back to me in a few months …

"I was heartbroken to see that my ex-girlfriend, figure skater Yuna Kim, didn't win the gold in Sochi. I called her to congratulate her, and she seemed genuinely excited to embrace her new life as a 'normal' member of society.

"Exciting news: I'm going to the World Cup in Brazil this summer. I needed a place to stay for an evening in Rio de Janeiro and searched 'friends of friends who live in Rio' on a well-known social network. Through this query, I was able to reach a CC '11 alum who offered her floor to me and **Varun Gulati '10E** for a night. How about that for our Columbia network pulling through in the clutch?!

"I've changed my stance: Tiger Woods will never win another major."

Thanks for all of your submissions. Keep them coming for next time!



Amanda Schiff '12, '14 TC and Scott Bromberg were married on June 30, 2013, in Roslyn, N.Y. Top row, left to right, Maryann Vlahos '12, Justin Hedvat '12 JTS, Anthony Testa '12, Natalie Eisen '12 Barnard, the bride, the groom and Stacy Nelson '13 Barnard; and bottom row, left to right: David Schwartz '12, Karla Casariego '12, Sydney Newman '11 Barnard, Sabina Goldstein '12 JTS, Rebecca Byrne '13 Barnard and Talia Fisher '13.

PHOTO: THE GLENMAR STUDIO

11

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This spring proved to be a prolific season for 2011 graduates. Congratulations to all who earned degrees, took on new jobs, abandoned dehumanizing ones, got married, got lucky and went on tour!

Since graduation, **Warren McGee** has pursued an M.D./Ph.D. at Northwestern. Now in his third year, Warren is studying the normal function of a protein involved in neurodegeneration and cancer. He was part of a team that launched the Good Neighbors Street Outreach Program in Chicago in spring 2013. The program goes out weekly with basic need items for those on the street but primarily focuses on building trusting relationships with "clients" so those individuals can comfortably reach out to its community partner, the Chicago Lights Elam Davies Social Service Center, if they need help with bigger issues.

Sam Reider recently returned to the United States with his band, the Amigos, who were on a five-week tour of Southeast Asia and China, representing the U.S. Department of State. The Amigos' tour took them to Cambodia, Laos, Burma, Vietnam and China. Sam's band gave public performances, participated in community education workshops and collaborated with local musicians. Make sure to learn more about them at theamigosband.com and amvoices.org/ama.

After getting teaching experience in San Francisco, **Rosalyn Shih** moved to Beijing, where she began work as a college counselor for Due West, an educational company founded by Michael J. Novielli '03 and Andrew Sohn '04. She enjoys being in what feels like a foreign country to her — Rosalyn is from Hong Kong — and helping students understand their collegiate options in the United States. Anyone who swings by Beijing is encouraged to drop Rosalyn a line: rosalynshih@gmail.com!

Also enjoying the glow of a new job is **Alexander Ivey**, who recently started working for House Majority PAC in Washington, D.C. He manages research for 23 races for the House of Representatives. During the 2012 election cycle, Alexander was a research analyst at the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.

Shane Ferro is another who scored a new gig: She is now a writer at Counterparties and Reuters.com. Shane covers a variety of subjects, including economics, finance and gender equality. Another move is on the horizon, as she will be joining Duke Law as a member of the Class of 2017.

Speaking of law school, many congratulations are in order for **Ali**

STAY IN TOUCH

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Krimmer, who graduated from Fordham Law on May 19!

Since the timing of our appointment as class correspondents came not too long before this issue's Class Notes deadline, we really appreciated how quick you all were to send news. It was so nice to hear from you, too! Continue to send in your updates as they happen; we're looking forward to many, many more renditions of 2011 Class Notes.

Until then, much love from Nuriel (nurielm@gmail.com) and Sean (sean.udell@gmail.com).

12

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Happy summer, Class of 2012! I hope you'll all find time to take a break, whatever you may be up to.

Virat Gupta finished his first year at the Law School in May and is looking forward to spending the summer as a judicial intern for the chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico. He couldn't be more excited and hopes that all his classmates are doing well.

After a long winter lull, **Paul Hsiao** welcomes summer adventures: He is excited to celebrate **Eric Tang '12E**'s birthday and to spend time with **Emily Ahn,** who works in Madison, Wis., but plans to visit. Paul also wishes his instant-messaging and visits with **Angela Wang** continue, and he plans to go to Bali this summer for a wedding (not his own).

Richard Lenz returned to New York from London by way of Baltimore in May of last year. Since then, he's been dabbling in a number of endeavors: "I've been living in uptown Manhattan with Alex Calhoun '11; his wife, Nora '10, '13 Nursing; and their daughter, Frances (Class of 2035). Otherwise, my energies have been not-so-equally divided between photographing and working in the Columbia darkroom, and making a living, both with mixed results.

"Odd jobs of the past year have included search engine evaluator, house cleaner, test subject, public relations assistant for a classical guitarist, babysitter and record dealer. I hope to publish a book of my photographs sometime in the next couple of decades."

Aditya Mukerjee has Columbia-related news that he's excited to share: BoardRounds, the company he co-founded with Benjamin Jack '07E as part of the Blueprint Health 12-week accelerator program, has been working with the emergency room at NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center to ensure that at-risk patients get timely follow-up care with primary care physicians. The program ended in April, and Aditya and Ben are excited for whatever the next stage of their venture will bring!

A graduate of Trinity Forum Academy, **Sarah Ngu** now is a researcher with LRN, an advisory firm that helps align an organization's culture and governance with its values. She writes, "I've found a use for the liberal arts in (somewhat) corporate America. I'm using the interdisciplinary modes of thinking that the Core and my American studies degree fostered to create speeches and articles for my CEO, Dov Seidman, on global trends, values-based leadership and organizational culture. I do miss the intellectual freedom of the academy, but I am grateful for the wider audience (e.g., the next speech is for all NFL coaches and owners)."

Gillian Rhodes sent an update from Cambodia: "It's been a little more than 1½ years since I moved here and although every day is still an adventure, I definitely have a community around me now. [As I write] I was recently accepted to dance/choreograph two pieces in the Sibu International Dance Festival in Malaysia in June. I'm still working for Cambodian Television Network; this year I was asked (with 24 hours notice!) to guest judge for its popular program *Like It or Not* as well as to close out the season as a judge on a Korean pop dance contest. Never a dull moment!"

In March, **Remy Zaken** participated in the workshop of *Bright Star,* a new musical by Steve Martin and Edie Brickell. The New York City workshop was attended by Sir Ian McKellen, Paul Simon, Mike Nichols and Diane Sawyer. For those like me who lack knowledge in performing arts lingo, Remy explains, "A workshop is basically a staged reading of a new musical so the creative team can see what the show looks like at that point. There are minimal sets and props, and an invited audience of friends and family. It's a very collaborative experience."

Thanks for sharing all your exciting updates, CC '12. I enjoy reading each and every one, and I know many of our classmates do as well.

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I hope everyone is enjoying some sun and warmth after a long, snowy winter. This June marks our first year as Columbia College graduates, one that was undoubtedly filled with accomplishments and exciting endeavors. Your classmates have been up to some pretty interesting things around the world.

Yoshiaki Ko '13 is working toward a master's of music in piano performance at The Juilliard School; he often performs in New York City.

Congratulations to **ChunYu Shi,** who recently got married; she and her husband met while she was studying abroad during her junior year in Beijing. They recently moved into a studio in Manhattan and have been looking for jobs and exploring New York City. On Valentine's Day, they renewed their vows in Times Square.

Since August 2013, **Rose Winer** has been working in Los Angeles on The Walt Disney Co.'s environment and conservation team. She's been managing two big projects, the first of which was a company-wide Earth Month (April) campaign. This involved developing various elements including a website, four webinars, a photo/video contest, two local events, promotional items, a social media campaign and marketing materials. As Disney is a global company with a variety of businesses, developing the Earth Month project meant coordinating with partners around the world; among them are Marvel, ESPN, Pixar, Walt Disney Studios, Disney Consumer Products, Disney Interactive, and Disney Parks and Resorts.

Rose also managed the launch of a program that provides Disney business leaders and employees with the tools to reduce their environmental impact at work. This project will be based on an internal website that provides business guidance, communications collateral and other resources with the goal of integrating an environmentally conscious mindset into the Disney workplace.

Rose enjoys her work at Disney, she says, because the company offers executive-level support for sustainability and has a global reach. Thus, her work successfully reaches thousands of people around the world, spreading the message of positive environmental change.

After enjoying a post-grad summer tending bar at Morningside Heights' beloved Pisticci, **Zoe Shaeffer** started interning with *Saveur* magazine last fall. She was recently hired as an assistant digital editor and loves the world of food and travel publishing.

Ryan Cho will pursue a Ph.D. in sociology this fall at UCLA. After taking a year off from school, he says he's ready to get back to studying, this time in warmer weather! He is interested in researching social stratification caused by inaccessibility to elite institutions of higher education as well as the implications and social outcomes of military service.

In April, Ryan also took command of Detachment 2, 165th Quartermaster Company (Airborne), based in Mead, Neb. He leads 80 parachute riggers who help provide logistical support by way of aerial delivery.

Good luck, Ryan!

Similarly pursuing his academic passions is **Yoshiaki Ko,** who is working toward a master's of music in piano performance at The Juilliard School. As a student in the Columbia-Juilliard Exchange, which involved his taking weekly lessons at Juilliard while at Columbia, Yoshiaki is not new to the music academy. However, being a full-time student there definitely is! One of the big challenges, he says, comes from being surrounded by tremendously talented peers: It is inspiring, and creates a lot of pressure, he says. He explains that the students are so single-minded in honing their skills that a sense of competition is inevitable. That said, for the most part he enjoys the experience, possibly because he does not intend to have a career in piano performance but would rather attempt to combine his interests in neuroscience (his major at Columbia) and music. At this writing, Yoshiaki plans to be in Milwaukee this summer as artist-in-residence for an organization called PianoArts. He won first prize at its competition in 2010 and has been doing educational outreach and youth programs for it since.

Yoshiaki often performs at Juilliard and in Lincoln Center; schedules can be accessed online.

Giancarlo Roma has also been working in the arts. During his junior year, his father, Thomas Roma (a photographer and photo professor at Columbia), approached him about collaborating on a book. It was to contain 142 of his father's photographs spanning his career, condensed into 100 pages, with a piece of



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short fiction running through the pictures. Giancarlo was more than excited to work on the piece, which would come to be called *The Waters of Our Time*. He explains the project "was conceived as an homage to the now obscure but once bestselling 1955 book *The Sweet Flypaper of Life* by Langston Hughes and photographer Roy DeCarava, for which Hughes wrote a fictional first-person narrative that weaves through DeCarava's photographs." Throughout *The Waters*, the story, photographs and lyrics interact as the elderly female narrator reflects on her life, spent in her hometown of Brooklyn, as it comes to a close.

In the process of writing, Giancarlo was given only a dummy that contained his father's photographs, already sequenced, and the white space between them where the text would be. He explains that he and his father thought of the process as making a movie in reverse: The pictures function as the script and the text acts as the moving images. Once he had written the first few lines, in which the narrator tries to recall a song she continually wakes up hearing in her head, the book seemed to fit with a natural soundtrack.

Working on this book has been a true pleasure for Giancarlo and his father, he says, as they each contributed components and ended up with a great collaboration. *The Waters* was printed in Verona, Italy, in February, and released on April 22. The first book signing was set to take place on May 8 at the power-House Arena in DUMBO, Brooklyn.

Several classmates have been working on projects abroad.

After three summers of volunteering in Beirut's Palestinian refugee camps, **Gabriela Maryse Siegel** moved to Beirut in June 2013 and began a job at Caritas Lebanon Migrant Center. She works on its Syrian Refugee Crisis Response team and is protection officer and legal coordinator, mainly working on programming for the legal services the staff provides to Syrian refugees and coordinating with agencies that work on similar issues.

James Caldarise is wrapping up an enlightening year teaching as an English language assistant in Austria. He hopes to return to New York to continue working in the higher education sector.

After graduating, **Arielle Kogut** traveled to South America, Europe and North America. She has since settled in downtown Manhattan and is an analyst in the investment banking department at Maxim Group.

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Emily Dreibelbis
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Congratulations, 2014! No matter how many classes we had on the seventh floor of Hamilton, how many meals we endured in the dining hall or how many cobblestones we tripped over while walking across campus — we did it.

As your class correspondent, I am thrilled to help document our journey ahead through our very own column in *Columbia College Today*. Whether you're working, performing exciting research or just taking some time to figure it all out, I want to hear about it — and so do your classmates. Our column will be a great way to stay connected to one another and the rest of the Columbia family. Please feel free to email me any time at the address at the top of the column, and I will also be in touch via email in the coming months. You also can submit an update via *CCT*'s webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Have a great summer, wherever it takes you!

Message from CCAA President Kyra Tirana Barry '87

(Continued from page 38)

has been a leader on the Undergraduate Campaign Council and the Board of Visitors; Yong-Kyoo Rim '00 has been a Class Agent and ARC member; Christine Ortiz '08 is the new VP of the Latino Alumni Association of Columbia University; and Raymond Yu '89, '90E has been a Class Agent as well as a member of the Fund Development Council and ARC.

The end of an era is always a bittersweet moment. However, as I close out my term as CCAA president, I can't help but smile knowing what wonderful things are in store for our alumni.

Thank you for your passion for Columbia College and its students, your continued expectation of excellence, your exceptional support of the College and for staying in touch. You make Columbia great.

Kyra

ALUMNI CORNER

Song of the Unsung Alumni

BY ED WEATHERS '68, '69 GSAS

This is for all of us who have never been mentioned in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal* or *The Washington Post*.

It is for all of us who have never written a book, composed a symphony, made a movie or seen our play produced.

It is for all of us who managed to get through four years at Columbia College only thanks to a modicum of intelligence and a whole lot of hard work — for those of us who, say, in our junior year read Joyce's *Ulysses* during a single 24-hour period, and then, bleary-eyed, (appropriately) flunked Lionel Trilling's quiz the next morning.

This is for all of us who scrambled every week for four years just to keep up with the assignments, practically living in Butler Library, so we never had time to Learn the City. (Where the heck is SoHo, anyway?)

It is for all of us who have never been summa or magna anything.

This is for all of us who can't beat the computer at chess when it's set to "beginner," who strain to follow the logic of the daily bridge column and who can't remember the ending of *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* despite having read it three times. No wonder we gave up our dreams of astrophysics after freshman-year calculus (and flunked *Ulysses*).

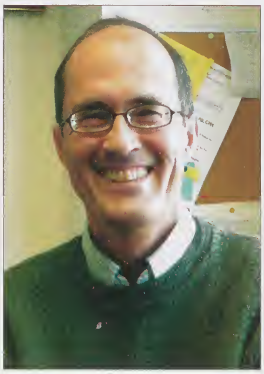
It is for all of us who were not All-American athletes, scholars or poets to begin with, and who will never enter a hall of fame or be nominated for The Big Prize.

It is for those of us who (mostly) didn't come from the New England prep schools or the academic hothouses of Brooklyn and Manhattan. We came, instead, from the public schools of nowhere, where we had excelled because all the tests were multiple choice and our grammar was better than average.

This, then, is for all of us who were too young, too naïve and too ignorant to appreciate fully the great lectures of the great professors in the great halls of learning when we were just 18 or, let's be honest, even 21. For some of us, it was Trilling, Edward Said and Richard Hofstadter in Hamilton Hall. For others, it was … who knows? We don't keep up with the Great Scholars of other eras.

Yes, this is for all of us whose best papers at the College were graced with the following professorial comment: "A-/B+ There is much that is good here." (Some of us have asked that this be inscribed on our tombstones.)

This is for those of us who have written no laws, founded no companies, established no charities, discovered no stars, invented no medicines, ended no wars.



This is for those of us who have written no laws, founded no companies, established no charities, discovered no stars, invented no medicines, ended no wars.

It is for all of us who did not marry a 116th Street peer and whose children decided not to apply to Columbia or, heaven forbid, applied and were turned down.

This is for those of us who don't make the news but do keep up with it, who are not opinion-makers but have informed opinions, who never created an art form or an app but know a fulfilling hobby when we find one.

It is for those of us who are not embarrassed to be caught playing golf or watching *The Big Bang Theory*.

This is for those of us who have never been asked to give an interview or to sit for a photo shoot.

This is for all of us who have, at the end of the day, done, well, OK for ourselves, and who know that our college certainly had something to do with that. We've been, throughout our lives, competent, reliable and kind. We've been valued by our bosses and admired by our co-workers. We've been respected and liked in our communities — and, for the most part, in our homes. We haven't been poor in the purse and, thanks in large part to the College, we've been enriched, a bit more than average, by the arts, the books and the more interesting kinds of people and experiences life has offered us.

Finally, then, this is for all of us who, once upon a time, came to Columbia College unformed and uncertain, and left, thank you, with just a bit of confidence. Alma mater didn't make us Rulers of the World but when we meet someone, we nevertheless try heroically to wedge Her into the conversation. "And where did you go to school?" we ask, knowing we will be asked the same in return. It is as if, time after time, we still cannot believe the good fortune of our answer.

Ed Weathers '68, '69 GSAS *is (mostly) retired after a decade teaching writing courses at Virginia Tech. Before that, he was, for four decades, a magazine writer and editor (*Memphis *magazine,* Golf Digest, Tennis *magazine). He lives with his life partner, Gail Billingsley, in Blacksburg, Va., where he is, unapologetically, a single-digit golfer and three-times-a-week tennis player. A few hours a week, via the Internet, he helps Tanzanian medical students improve their English writing skills.*



Televised Sports Began at Columbia 75 Years Ago

May 17 marked the 75th anniversary of the first televised sporting event in history — the second game of a baseball doubleheader between Princeton and Columbia at Baker Field, won by the Tigers 2–1 in 10 innings. Fewer than 400 television sets were capable of receiving the signal broadcast by NBC, which used the game as a tryout before attempting a Major League Baseball game five months later. For a full account of the event, written by Hall of Fame sports writer Leonard Koppett '44 for *CCT* in 1999, go to college.columbia.edu/cct_archive/spr99/34a_fr.html.



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